



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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THE BACKGROUND OF CHINESE UNITY

One of the most outstanding features of the Sino-Japanese conflict in recent weeks has been the growth and consolidation of the Chinese national front. And this has not sprung up mushroom-fashion. For years Chiang Kai-Shek's main efforts were spent in a futile struggle to annihilate Communism in China, the Chinese Soviet areas, and the Chinese Red Army. China's interests as a nation were sacrificed right and left in the pursuance of this aim. It is only the pressure of the Chinese people, the hard patient work of the real friends of China, and the ever more blatant pressure of Japanese aggression which have led to a reversal in the policy of Nanking.

Already in July 1936 the formation of a National Defence Council, with representatives of the provincial governments, was a tentative step in the direction of national unity. At this time Chiang Kai-Shek declared that the hour for final sacrifice would come if an attempt were made to

force China to recognise the Japanese puppet state of Manchukuo, or if her territorial sovereignty were again violated. This was followed by an increasingly firm attitude on the part of the Chinese authorities to the various Japanese provocations, but national unity was still far from complete, as was shown by the fact that as late as February this year the Central Executive Committee of the Koumintang published a manifesto containing the statement that the cardinal policy of the central authorities should be to root out the Communists by every means at their disposal.

THE SIANFU INCIDENT

One of the key stones in the complicated structure of Chinese unity was laid by the correct policy of the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Red Army in the Sianfu incident, when Chiang Kai-Shek was kidnapped by Chang Hsueh Liang. It is certain that at

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A STRUGGLE AHEAD SO MUCH THE BETTER

BY ALEXIS TOLSTOI

The days of sumptuous conferences, of elegant meetings of the different Committees, the days of France and England's ostrich policy, of unparalleled meanness and cowardice—those days are ended.

The Pirate Flag is hoisted openly in the Mediterranean. France finds herself cut off from Northern Africa, and England from the Suez Canal. The Fascist programme has been published. The second Roman Empire and the third German Empire between them are directing Europe, including, naturally, England—and old Roman colony.

This is the final announcement. The lion-tamer must now grasp his whip and go into the jackals' cage. That is our proposal to all the constitutional powers and Republics of Europe.

For our part, we have taken careful note of the fact that two of our merchant vessels have been sunk by the Italian fascist submarines. Ours is a serious-minded people, and it considers seriously its historic undertakings. We shall do what we have decided to do, whatever may stand in our road.

We shall answer the news of the torpedoing of our ships in such a manner that Mussolini will have no time to confess his crimes. Our forces and our means are inexhaustable. Inexhaustably vast. Naturally it is more agreeable to devote ourselves to building universities and sports stadiums than warships. But world fascism has forced us to build a great Soviet Navy, and it shall be built. The Soviet Navy will be the strongest in the world; and that is as true as the fact that in ten years we have caught up with European heavy industry, and passed it.

That is not the most wonderful side. The wonderful thing is that at the same time we shall go on building universities and stadiums. We shall not divide our forces, we shall double them. Our task consists in forcing the world to follow a road which avoids imperialist war, and this is possible if we become stronger than the whole imperialist world.

This task can be accomplished. It lies in the realm of reality. We are very near to accomplishing it. The idea must be driven like a nail into everyone's brain that we are living in a great and terrible epoch. It is and will have to be the duty of each one of us to know how to organise our efforts, our ability, in a Stakhanovite manner, to know how to subordinate our life and our creative activity.

The greatest happiness in life lies in feeling one's own strength, and we are masters of our own strength when "every muscle is brought into play", when all our mental energy is directed to achievements each day renewed.

Before us—the struggle. Then so much the better!



THE WHITE HORSE on which Franco was going to ride triumphantly into Madrid. But that was a year ago. Meanwhile, look what's happened to the poor horse, which we found grazing weakly in the fields when we took y Belchite. Franco is still fat, however but not for long.

WE VISIT A STEEL FOUNDRY IN MADRID

What attracted the attention of our delegation of five from the International Brigades as we filed into the office—reminiscent of many factory offices in the States—was a red, yellow and purple certificate on the grey wall, which read in Spanish as follows:

Republica, Commercial de Hierros (Irons), incautado por el Estado en virtud del decreto de agosto, 1936. (Taken over by the State in virtue of the decree of August 2, 1936).

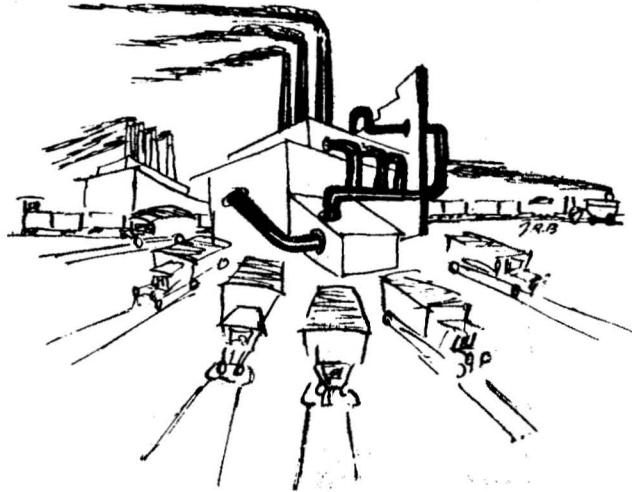
The President of the Factory Committee, working at his desk in blue overalls, was not expecting visitors, but he welcomed us cordially. At that moment a sudden burst of machine gun fire, followed by several grenade explosions, came as sharp and clear as the clang of the steel sledge hammers being wielded by workmen in the mill yard. The President, catching our inquisitive look, climbed out of his swivel chair and strolled to the window a few feet away. Pointing southward he said, "See, comrades, that house between two lone trees on the brow of that hill? Well, that's where the fascists are! They can see us, and we can see them."

Before the civil war broke out in July, 1936, this mill was in the hands of the absentee capitalists who extracted their profits through representatives that conducted the operation of the factory. As soon as the war started, the Government took over the mill; the representatives didn't lose time in scrambling from the country. By driving out the fascist-minded, the workers were able to start production of war materials.

PRODUCING FOR WAR

However, up to this time the mill had been used only for the production of iron-construction materials for buildings. Consequently, for it to be turned into a war factory required many changes in machinery and methods of production which proved difficult, but were finally accomplished with skilful ingenuity. In November, when the fascists were threatening to enter Madrid on the morrow, all the workers of the mill as one man marched to the front. It was impossible to work in the mill at the time because of the heavy concentration of fire

EVEN WOMEN SWING SLEDGE HAMMERS TO FORGE BETTER LIFE FOR FUTURE



on it from the approaching invaders. Airplane bombardments directed against the plant was a daily feature.

Normally the mill employs 500 to 600 men. Now because most of their young men have gone to the fronts, there are only 320 workers, most of them above 40 years of age. The workers are represented by the U. G. T. and the C. N. T. The Factory Committee, whose function is equivalent to that of an executive committee of any organization, is composed of 11 men—a president, secretary, and 9 delegates—all elected by the workers of the plant. Each member of the committee takes part in the production as well as in the administration of the plant. In addition there is one representative, also elected, from each working unit throughout the mill who serves as liaison man between the factory committee and the men. He can be said to be his section political commissar. The factory has in its administrative staff a government official who assists in coordinating the work between the government and the factory.

BIG WAGE INCREASE

Wages range from 14 pesetas a day on up, according to qualifications; and an 8 hour day and a 6 day week. This is a 40 per-

cent increase in pay from that which they received under the old regime. There is no night work because electric lights would make a perfect target for enemy artillery.

In the early days of the war they made armoured-cars and machine guns, to the surprise of other steel mills in the vicinity that immediately followed the example. It is true that these balloon tire armoured-cars they made were unable to cope with the powerful modern German and

NEW INVENTIONS

Whereas under the old regime the workers had none or very little incentive to improve the speed of their work, that is now changed. By intensive and enthusiastic application they have invented many devices that speed up production. For instance, during the early days they used to fill machine gun belts with cartridges by hand, often ripping the belt. Now, by having invented a simple machine, they are able to insert as many cartridges in a belt in ten minutes as, formerly, it took two hours to do. They have modeled a machine-gun-rifle disc that holds more bullets and works better than other types. Many of the food cans which the comrades use at the front to keep their food hot were originated here. Another interesting contraption they've invented is a machine that has eliminated hours of useless labor. Formerly, men hammered all day long straightening out wire and cutting required lengths by hand. Now this can be done by automatic machinery, straightening and cutting the wire more accurately and a 1000 percent more rapidly. These same workers have also made a huge loudspeaker, which is used at the front to propagandize the fascists.

A collective kitchen, where the workers of the mill eat for

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STEEL FACTORY WORKERS next to one of their earliest production items of the hastily-built armored cars used by our army during the first months of the war.

José Colom - People's Captain

From the Spanish of Manuel Altolaguirre

Under your wings the winds are strong,
And a song of scorn for the tyrant's chain
You hear at your ear in the motor's roar—
"For the Land, the People, for Spain, for Spain!"
O People's Captain, lone in the sky,
Your eye is wet as you look below—
Scorned of fears, you gaze through tears
On the hills you love and the land you know.
What harvest is this in the peasant's field?—
What yield of death where the vineyard stood?
See! Treason's hand has ravaged the land,
The rivers are red with the People's blood!
O José Colom, look down, look down,
O cloud-cloaked captain, now mark you well
The master of Roman, Goth and Moor,
The Court of Judas, the Camp of Hell!

But turn, José, to the rising sun,
Unbowed behold us for whom you fly:
In vale and village, from town and tillage,
The People muster with banners high.
The People, the People!—their vow is spoken,
Spain is not broken nor bowed in fear—
Before death claims you and history names you,
The People's answer, O Captain, hear!

Under your wings the winds have failed,
Hailed by death you were swift to go.
Your plane, yourself, were your only weapons,
We saw you crash as you dashed the foe.
Ah People's Captain, José Colom,
No sad nor solemn dirge is mine:
Your name and fame I fling as a flame
To summon the brave to the firing-line!
By the light of your deeds we dig our trenches,
And swear the vengeance that is your due—
When the Moor is dead and the Goth's forgotten,
When the Roman's fled and the traitor's rotten,
The People, the People, will sing of you!

SHAEMAS O'SHEEL

10,000 Babies in Madrid Less Than Year Old

There are ten thousand babies in Madrid today under one year of age. The mothers of these children are unable to feed them at the breast.

Even in normal times in Madrid, ten percent of the children born died before they were a year old. If this was the average in peace time, it is tragic to imagine what might have occurred in war. But the slogan of the people of Madrid has been "children first".

Ignorance of scientific methods brought about the high infant mortality. Convinced that its duties towards the babies cannot be fulfilled simply by handing mothers a little fresh or condensed milk, the Council has opened centers for baby care all over Madrid. There every mother brings her child. The child is weighed and examined at the center, and a careful record made. A diet list is made out, the mother is given the exact formula for mixing the child's milk and all the necessary instructions for looking after her baby. She is also supplied with powdered milk, sugar, and other necessities. If the infant fails to gain weight the formula is changed.

Every month the Madrid mothers are supplied with 40,000 kilograms of powdered milk, 6,000 of sugar, and 3,000 of flour.

In the near future it is hoped to extend the service to babies over one year as well.

Anthology of Poetry by Volunteers Is Planned

Volunteers are urged to send original poems, in English, to the Volunteer for Liberty, both for use in the magazine and for publication in an anthology of verse by English-speaking comrades in Spain. Please write your own name and address on every manuscript submitted.

Stories, articles, letters and other contributions to these pages are always welcome. Address: The Volunteer for Liberty, S. R. I., 63E, Albacete.

In the Rebel Zone

A recent radio talk by Queipo de Llano is particularly interesting. In his jests he continues to insist on the morality campaign and the edicts of the governors on this subject. He proposes, in his clownish way, that men and women should be dressed in sacks showing only their eyes, on which they should wear dark spectacles.

★

"A B C" de Seville, pronounced an exhortation apropos of the "lack of respect" of the public when they hear the "National Hymn".

★

Franco has announced that every spent cartridge which is brought in to the civil governors, staff headquarters or barracks, will be rewarded with one centimo.



ARAGON BATTLE SCENE: Our men, entrenched on a hilltop, watch the planes speeding off

scouring the enemy terrain.

AMERICAN HOSPITALS THROW A CHILDREN'S PARTY

They marched down the road from the American Hospital of Saelices, by the ruins of the Convent castle of Castillejo towards the clearing in the woods, by the creek.

More than 300 of them. Girls first, boys after, singing the International, shouting the Young Guard, happy, untrammelled. The Spanish girls working at the Hospital led the parade, the old folks came at the end. The day was bright. They are always bright, the days in Spain. But brighter than the day were the thoughts engendered by such a sight.

On that road, old, narrow and stony, travelled for centuries by insolent monks and men in armor, the passing peasant was a mere beast of burden only a few years ago. In the building which houses the American Hospital, Maria Cristina de Borbon reigned with an iron hand, and stories are often told of her avarice, of her meanness, of her insolence. There is no kindness or joy in the face of the peasant women when they talk of her. And now, with feudalism



HOSPITAL CHIEF: Dr. Irving Busch, snapped while watching the festivities.

in all its brutality and ignorance still a recent experience in the lives even of the young ones, the whole population of Saelices, all their organizations, in a living united front were holding a picnic for the children, in co-operation with the American Hospital staff, with an orchestra furnis-

hed by the Cuenca Branch of the Socorro Rojo Internacional, which was represented at the picnic by its president, Comrade Julian Lopez.

This picnic, not many miles from the front, in the midst of war and revolution, kept throwing one's mind back years and generations. Everything conspired in that direction. Not only the setting. What was more evident was the great enthusiasm among the younger generation in singing the Joven Guardia, often greater than in singing the International. And why not? Why sing only

Arise ye prisoners of starvation.
Arise ye wretched of the earth.

when a whole nation has arisen, when for hundreds of kilometers on a front from the Pyrenees to the Mediterranean, through mountains and deserted fields, hundreds of thousands of peasants, muleteers, factory workers professional people and even storekeepers are holding back and pushing back the forces which



CLIMBING THE GREASED POLE. One of Spanish kids at the picnic, tackling a new, imported sport.

would restore the power of the clergy, return the palace of Maria Cristina to the royal house... How appropriate the lines:

Somos la Joven Guardia
que va forjando el porvenir.

And the children of Saelices instinctively knew it. The International was a song learned and loved, but the Joven Guardia was felt and lived.

There wasn't the slightest doubt among the boys, trying, not very successfully, to climb the pole, that the earth was theirs. When from a corner of the field someone started to sing their song, down came the human column which was cooperatively trying to climb the too damn-well greased pole, and they all joined the chorus, fists raised.

Nor did they stop at the end of the first verse. After the refrain:

Es la lucha final que comienza
la revancha de los que ansian pan;
en la revolución que está en marcha
los esclavos el triunfo alcanzarán.

sung with meaningful severity, came the second verse, reminiscent and full of promise:

Hijos de la miseria

Más hambre no hemos de sufrir.
Nuestras las fábricas serán.



HOSPITAL PICNIC SCENES. The children salute, drink leche, play and pose for our photographer.



PEASANT GIRL, photographed at the hospital picnic.

The woods were echoing their strong and vibrant voices. In the faces of the parents was reflected the joy over the victory against fascism and feudalism, but mingled with sadness and bitterness evoked by losses and past sufferings. Not so for the children. Theirs was the fiesta and theirs the world. They knew that:

*Mañana por las calles
masas en triunfo marcharán;
ante la Guardia Roja
los poderosos temblarán.*

Doctor Irving Busch, Commander of the American Hospital in Spain, was as pleased and happy as any of the children. The nurses distributed toys (one for every child) the cakes, the sandwiches, Al Stone Political Commissar of the base, busy as a brood hen corraling ducklings, was everywhere, and when evening came and Comrade Julian Lopez expressed the wish that such affairs be held

often and regularly, it was amusing to watch the startled expression of Stone who had just wiped the perspiration from his forehead after shipping the last ambulance-load of children back to Saelices.

After supper the nurses, the whole hospital staff, many of the wounded, now convalescing, the delegations of the the workers or-



HOMeward BOUND. Riding the burro home, after a day of fun.



"THEY MARCHED down the road, more than 300 of them, singing..."

ganizations of Saelices and Cuenca, danced. In the library room of the Infanta Maria Cristina de Borbon, with the old painting still hanging, the room festooned with colored paper, joy reigned.

And when the dance came to an end, and that only because of exhaustion, Stone found his way to his room and under the rich woolen spread on which the Infanta had her name and crown richly embroidered, no doubt thought of bigger and better picnics for the children of Saelices.

H. A.

THE BACKGROUND OF CHINESE UNITY

(Continued from page 1.)

this time, had the Red Army so wished, it could have marched through Shensi and considerably increased its strength, at the same time settling various old scores. It is equally certain that such action would have plunged China into a sharp civil war which would have been an immense asset to Japan. The Chinese Soviet Government and the Chinese Red Army did not take the bait. On the contrary, they played a leading part in securing Chiang Kai-Shek's release, frustrated the plans of the Japanese agents, and helped the Chinese people to realize more clearly where some of China's best friends were to be found.

In connection with Chiang's release, Chou En-Lai, Vice Chairman of the Red Army's Military Council, flew to Sianfu and from there to Nanking.

Negotiations between the Chinese Soviet leaders and the Nank-

ing Government began shortly after the Sianfu affair, and at long last the Nanking Government has made the following official statement:

"China's Government at Nanking and the Communist Army have been fighting for ten years. The struggle is now over."

Previous to this, Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the Chinese Soviet Government, and Chuh-teh, Commander in Chief of the Red Army, had been in Nanking for discussions with the Kuomintang Military Council.

The Chinese Red Army has now become the 8th Route Army of the Central Government Army of China, and Chuh-teh has been officially gazetted as its commander-in-chief. The Army is defending the key sectors of Nankow and Chahar on the Northern Front.

The Central Chinese Government has released hundreds of political prisoners.

In a war which will probably be of a very mobile character, and in which the policy of the Chinese forces will be to avoid big decisive battles in the early stages, a war of sudden attacks followed by withdrawal, swift concentration and dispersal, the Chinese Red Army, with its long experience of guerilla warfare and rapid movement, with its complete reliability founded on the political understanding of its soldiers, will be of inestimable value in China's struggle against Japan.

JAPAN'S DIFFICULTIES BEGINNING

At the same time as China is uniting all her forces, there are the first signs of military and political difficulties facing Japan. The Japanese Prime Minister has announced that the situation is one of "particular gravity" and

has uttered a warning against "premature optimism". Coming from the Japanese authorities, who at the beginning of their aggression showed just such premature optimism in their estimation of China's capacity for resistance, such a declaration can only have one meaning.

There is no doubt that the growth of mass unrest in Japan, corresponding to a difficult economic situation, has been one of the factors which decided the military-fascist ruling clique to launch their new attack at this time. In the hope of balancing Japanese economy with the cotton and the cattle, the metals and the coal of the Northern provinces. But their object will scarcely be secured if the war is prolonged, with the consequent strain on Japanese resources, and this is precisely what appears to be happening.

A. M. K.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE FASCIST PIRATES

Fascism grows ever more desperate.

When German and Italian fascism, with the aid, of the traitor generals, attacked the Spanish people a year ago, it anticipated that within a few weeks it would be in control of the whole of the Spanish peninsula. And an impartial observer, marking the circumstances under which the invasion took place, might well be forgiven for agreeing with the fascist estimate. But what fascism had failed to take into account was the indomitable courage of the Spanish people and the active sympathy of the progressive forces of the whole world with the Republic in its struggle.

When it became evident that the easy victory it had anticipated would not be achieved, fascism still thought that by reason of its tremendously superior technical equipment and trained forces, it would achieve victory within a year of the commencement of the war. And for a time it also looked as if this estimate might be true. The untrained militia was being forced back at every point, despite the desperate courage it always displayed.

But a year has come and gone. Far from having achieved victory, fascism has been fought to a standstill and the growing power of the Spanish People's Army, with its increasingly better technical equipment, is steadily throwing back the fascist invaders.

PIRATICAL ATTACKS

In its utter desperation, fascism resorts to ever more reckless methods. On August 31st, the British destroyer, "Havock", was attacked by an unknown submarine. This attack was the culmination of a long series of piratical attacks on Mediterranean shipping.

The piracy commenced with the sinking of Spanish and Russian ships proceeding to or from Spain. Encouraged by the lack of concerted action by the Powers, it gradually extended to all shipping, of whatever nationality (excepting, of course, fascist shipping), that might be passing through the Middle Sea, whether its destination might be loyalist Spain or not. Spanish, Russian, French, Greek, Danish, Panaman and British vessels have all been attacked by aeroplanes, submarines and destroyers.

The surreptitious help and support that the British "National" Government has been lending to the designs of the fascists is being repaid with true fascist reciprocity. Not content with the control it has achieved over the Imperial British trade routes, fascism insists on *showing* its control in order to force further help.

MEDITERRANEAN PARLEY

With mixed motives, the British Government, assented to the calling of a conference of the Mediterranean Powers to deal with the question of the pirates, the "unknown pirates", as it called them with delightful naiveté.

It attended the conference with three objects:

1. To attempt to uphold the last traces of its prestige, which its constant withdrawals before fascist aggressions have brought lower than at any time in British history.

2. To protect that of its shipping not engaged in transporting food and supplies to loyalist Spain.

3. And to do all in its power, as far as it was consistent with the foregoing, to court fascist favour by giving it the particular kind of assistance that only the "National" Government can give.

PLANS RUDELY UPSET

But during the conference its plans were rudely upset. There

was at least one Power in Europe which was not at all disposed to tolerate the fog of diplomatic mumbo jumbo with which it was intended to surround the conference and cover a further betrayal of the fight against fascist aggression in Europe.

The representative of the USSR, did not bother to keep up the polite fiction that no one knew who the pirates were. To the horror of the British delegation, he stated in unmistakable terms who the pirates were and demanded their suppression.

After a long fight, the British plan, by which it was intended open the way to the giving of beligerent rights to Franco, was discarded. The plan which was eventually adopted is by no means a perfect instrument for the suppression of the pirates, but it will make their task considerably more difficult.

It would be over-optimistic to expect the British Government to fully implement the plan, yet there are signs that the antifascist forces (and even among the Governments own supporters, there are strong elements which disagree radically with its policy) are gathering strength and will compel a conducting of foreign affairs very different from the past. A letter to the "Times" by Mr. Wickham Steed, a past editor of the same paper, makes very interesting reading. Here is a short extract.

"If our policy induces a belief among other peoples, which like ourselves, hate war and love freedom, that we shall not raise a finger to help them should they be exposed to foreign aggression, we may foster this aggression and help to bring on a major war. Or our policy may drive these peoples to make terms with potential aggressors and thus leave us in a moral and political situation the reverse of splendid."

It its reckless attempts to extend war, fascism is opening the eyes of more and more of the British people as to what is its real significance, and we can visualise a time when the "National" Government will no longer be able to maintain its precarious balance and offer the aggressors the aid it has given them in the past five years.

J. T.

O. C. G.



WE VISIT A STEEL FOUNDRY

(Continued from Page 2.)

1 peseta 75 centimos a day, is located in what was formerly a long blue-print office. War posters decorate the neatly painted walls. A sign near the entrance of the kitchen says; "Comrades, the state of this dining-hall will indicate the degree of our culture. Another sign, significantly displayed, emphasises: "Unity will bring us Victory. Fascism is the culture of barbarism."

They have their wall-paper, and they issue an attractive monthly magazine called "Hoy" (Today).

Classes in the technical processes of production are conducted after work hours. Recently 21 women attended these classes regularly. These women are now ready and anxious to take the places

of their men if these men are called to the front. Yes, women in the steel mills, swinging sledge hammers to forge a better life for the future.

To keep contact with the rear-guard "El Campesino" Division has adopted this factory. Festivals have already been held between the two groups. The fighters of the "Campesino" Division have visited the factory and in turn the Mill workers have gone to the Division to join them in their sports events and other festivities.

The unity between the front and the rear is the tremendous horse-power that is propelling us to ultimate victory against fascism.



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SPANISH YOUTH MAPS ANTI-FASCIST FIGHT

"Unite, educate, and organize the youth of Spain to win the war and be more useful in the Revolution." With this slogan, the National Committee of the Juventud Socialista Unificada (Unified Socialist Youth) opened its plenum in the Auditorium of the Rockefeller Institute of Madrid on Friday, Sept. 24th. The sumptuous hall, once the center for indolent children of the upper classes, was used by hundreds of representatives of anti-fascist youth in a magnificent National Congress that lasted five days.

On the blue drape that hung in folds from the platform wall was a large picture of Tomás Meabe, poet and founder of the J. S. U. Also in the front of the hall, above the stage draw-curtain, in bold white letters



IN SESSION: Delegates to the J. S. U. Congress, recently held in Madrid, listening to one of the reports.

on a dark blue background, was a quotation from Lenin which significantly expresses the genuine aspirations of the liberated youth of Spain. "The youth", the quotation reads, "above all needs to have pleasure, and vital strength, sound gymnastic sports, swimming, hikes, and physical exercises of all kinds, a variety of intellectual interests, to learn, study, investigate; and they always should do so collectively if possible." Flags and banners belonging to the different representative youth organizations added to the gay unconquerable spirit of free determined youth.

DELEGATES FROM FRONT

Young military commanders, political commissars, officials, and soldiers, directly from the

to be a government of the Youth. "The minister of today" he said "has one duty, and that is to serve the needs of the people in the most beneficial manner."

On the second day General Miaja, illustrious defender of Madrid and great friend of the youth, greeted the plenum. Francisco Anton, Inspector-Commissar of the Army of the Center also was a guest speaker.

CARRILLO SPEAKS

The brilliant report by Santiago Carrillo, General Secretary of the J. S. U., made on the second day, can be said to be the pivot around which the Congress revolved.

Some points he outlined in his talk are:

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JESÚS HERNÁNDEZ

Minister of Public Education, greets the Youth Congress.

front, were among the many delegates.

The Congress opened with a salute to the glorious work of the Spanish Republican Army. Homage was paid to such national figures as Azafra, Premier Negrin, Companys of Catalonia, and to the youth who have fallen in the fight for national independence.

In the midst of prolonged ovation, Jesús Hernández, Minister of Public Education, was heralded by the Congress. He greeted the Youth Congress and pointed out how closely his governmental position brings him to the youth. Among the many things he told the delegates, he mentioned the difference between a minister under the old régime and the minister of today under a People's Front Government, which can be truly said



SANTIAGO CARRILLO

General Secretary of the J. S. U., delivering his report to the Congress.

TANKS

Among our comrades tanks enjoy the reputation of being fearful infernal engines of modern warfare. When the tanks suddenly advance in our direction we feel the desire to run. Nevertheless that is the most dangerous thing we can do.

We have very frequently witheld the attacks of the fascist tanks with success. The history of the early days of the war is full of heroic incidents, stories of comrades who went to meet the enemy tanks with a grenade in their hands. Today, however, we have other methods at our disposal and it is as well to remind ourselves of them.

HOW TANKS OPERATE

Tanks advance about 200 yards in front of the infantry, and their mission is to clear the ground which the infantry will occupy. The tanks' visibility is nil, so that there is no possibility of their making night attacks or of being used in very thickly wooded country. Our anti-tank bullets are effective and have already given satisfactory results. We should therefore entrust our best marksmen with the anti-tank bullets so that they can fire together in the direction of the driver of the tank, while the light machine gunners, the machine gunners and the other comrades stop the enemy infantry by keeping

up a heavy fire. This will force the tanks to halt, since they cannot dispense with the protection afforded them by their own infantry. Our trenches, constructed so as to avoid the danger of enfilading fire, will protect our bombers.

Not all types of ground are suitable for an advance by the tanks. As the tanks have to select the most suitable route to follow, it is easy to prepare very large deep traps which must be carefully camouflaged. In this way the routes which the tanks would follow can be blocked. Some of the best bombers should be near these points.

TANK OBSTACLES

A very wide ditch, with steep sides, constructed in front of the trenches, constitutes an obstacle which the tanks cannot pass at a moment when they are well within range of our bombers. Low stone walls, ruins, etc., are also useful obstacles which should be taken into account. I shall be told that all this is only possible in a position in which it has been possible to prepare a good defense in advance. But what is to be done when we have just halted after an advance? The answer to this is part of the infantryman's ABC. We must dig individual holes which later will become trenches. We should remember too that we have at our disposal



anti-tank guns and anti-tank cars which are really effective.

We can quote some experiences of the "Paris Commune" Battalion.

December 16th, 1936, at Boadilla del Monte, the 1st Company, thanks to rifle grenades and a few comrades, succeeded in stopping the advance of the tanks, while light machine gun, machine gun and rifle fire were directed against the fascist columns.

January 4th, 1937, at Remisa, the tanks' advance was stopped, thanks to heavy fire from the infantry.

February 16th, at Jarama, the 3rd Company stopped an advance of tanks through five comrades, firing in the direction of the driver, while all the rest of the Company fired on the infantry.

February 12th, the Fascist cavalry deceived our tanks by moving a wing and concealing themselves behind a mound.

March 11th, several comrades stopped the Italian fascists in front of Trijueque, in spite of the tanks and their flame throwers, on two successive occasions by keeping up an effective fire on the enemy infantry.

These examples prove that when the infantry know how to dig themselves in, each man making a fox-hole, and digging suitable trenches as soon as possible, they can withstand an attack by the enemy tanks. Consequently we should never think of running from the fascist tanks. Not only would such conduct be unworthy of a fighter for liberty, but it would

also be the most dangerous course he could take.

COMMANDER SAGNIER
11th Battalion,
14th Brigade.

Pro - Fascists Even Gyp Franco

Only the pro-fascist money-raising organization for Spain back in the United States has a shady record, financially, according to State Department figures, recently published, on the amount of relief actually sent to Spain by the various agencies, and the supplementary figures issued by the agencies themselves.

A prominent New York magazine comments on these figures as follows:

"It appears that all the groups have commendable records except the American Committee for Spanish Relief, a pro-rebel organization headed by Ogden H. Hammond, former ambassador to Spain. This organization, which was launched with a great splurge at a Madison Square Garden mass meeting, is shown to have sent not a penny to Spain out of the \$ 30,753 which it collected for war-sufferers, and to have swallowed more than \$ 25,000 in 'expenses'."

Among the pro-loyalist aid organizations, here are the records of funds sent to Spain:

North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, and Confederated Spanish Societies to Aid Spain, \$ 633,147.

Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy, \$ 119,353.

The Nation's Food Ship, \$ 25,550.



DEATH OF A SPANISH POET

EYE-WITNESS TELLS OF MURDER OF GARCIA LORCA

"That day I was on guard. I stepped aside to let pass a very young looking man being led by the Civil Guards. He was pale, but walked serenely."

The Spanish lad recounted his story, at first reluctantly, and then in a fluent, straightforward manner. A few months



GARCIA LORCA

beloved Spanish folk-poet, murdered at Granada by the Fascists.

ago he escaped from fascist territory and came to our lines on the Granada front. He told how Federico García Lorca, the famous Spanish poet, met his death during the first months of the war, at the hands of the fascists.

"When I saw him", he continued solemnly, "I understood the tragedy that encircled him. Over his head hung the pall of death for having written his famous romance of the 'Civil Guards'."

"Did you know García Lorca?" he was asked.

"No; I had read him a great deal, however. I knew his works and his life. I also know of his death—the manner in which his life was ended I shall never forget. It was so monstrous, so criminal, that I can never rub it out of my memory."

The lad unfolded his story: "García Lorca was located in

JACK SHIRAI

(Japanese-American Volunteer, killed at Villanueva de la Cañada.—July, 1937)

I hear that Comrade Shirai fell.
Who did not know him?
His funny pidgin English,
His smiling eyes,
And his brave heart
Made him loved as a brother
In the Abraham Lincoln Battalion,
Jack Shirai of Hakodate,
Son of Japanese earth.
He went to America
Because at home there was no bread;
Became a cook in Frisco.
His art tickled the palates
Of the richest playboys of the city.
In the summer of nineteen hundred thirty-six,
As the newspaper wrote,
In Europe, in Spain,
The Fascist wolf had come out to murder.
Jack Shirai packed his few things
And was among the first
To come from America
Helping the Spanish people in their fight
For human rights.
When the bullets whistled
And the tearing shells burst,
Then the boys of the Lincoln Battalion
Watched Jack Shirai.
He had a laughing heart!
Once (in June on the Jarama)
He was sent as a cook
Behind the lines to a hospital.
They liked him there—the sick,
The wounded, everybody.
And the village farmers talked often
Of the Japanese who had come so far for them.
But one day he ran away,
Back to the lines—to the front.
In the North, when we cracked
The ring around Madrid,
He was there as we stormed Brunete,
And Villanueva de la Cañada.
As the night was bright
With the shine of the burning towns,
Torn by exploding bombs
And the voices of the great guns,
Jack Shirai fell.
The Abraham Lincoln Battalion
Of the People's Army of Freedom,
And the Japanese proletariat,
Will not forget him.

LUDWIG D.



JACK SHIRAI
"He had a laughing heart."

the night. The Civils placed themselves behind the headlights, from where they could not be seen.

"García Lorca walked firmly with magnificent calm. Suddenly in the middle of the road, he halted. He turned swiftly and faced us, causing the insolent Lieutenant Medina, who was commanding the Civils, to gape in astonishment.

LORCA SPEAKS

"García Lorca spoke. He did not speak feebly, nor did he plead for his life. His powerful words were in defense of the thing he always loved: Liberty. He eulogized the cause of the people, and condemned the barbarity of fascism.

"Those fiery words, produced a tremendous disturbance among the Civil Guards. For me it was like a penetrating light in my brain. The poet continued talking... but his words were cut short. Lt. Medina exploded with blasphemous words and fired his pistol at the poet. Then he set the Civil Guards against him.

CLUBBED WITH RIFLES

"The spectacle was terrible. They threw themselves upon him and struck him mercilessly with the butts of their rifles. Some of us remained stationary, too horrified to do anything. García Lorca ran and was followed by a rain of bullets. A hundred yards away he keeled over. As the murderers approached him with intentions of finishing him, he raised his body, streaming

(Continued on page 5.)

a French legation, so I was told. By means of trickery he was induced to come out. When he did so, he was seized. He was not tried by any kind of tribunal. (For that matter, neither was anybody else held by the fascists.) The night of that very same day he was pulled out of the jail where the Civil Guard had him incarcerated. Among a squad of guards he was shoved into an automobile. I am sorry to say

that I figured among this blood-thirsty group.

"The line of autos, like a sinister convoy, pulled out onto the Padul road. We were driven 18 kilometers from Granada. It was 8 o'clock at night when we finally got out of the autos. The automobile headlights were focused directly on the man who was marching to his death. The silhouette of García Lorca cut an omnipresent figure in the darkness of

HOW CARL BRADLEY EARNED HIS THREE BARS

FIGHT AT QUINTO AND BELCHITE IS DESCRIBED

VALENCIA. — Spanish soldiers and officers in the Twenty-fourth Battalion of the Fifteenth Brigade came wearily out of the Aragon offensive but lost no time petitioning their command to give the three bars of captaincy to Carl Bradley of the States. They sent a little note along to G. H. Q. in which the words *heroico* and *gloriosa* figure a number of times, and thereby hangs a story, possibly one of the most revealing in this war, of the close bonds between the International Brigade and the Spanish soldiers. It tells how Carl Bradley, Local 3844, International Longshoreman's Association, became Captain Bradley, of the Spanish Republican Army.

The People's Army, hardened by a year of warfare into seasoned, disciplined troops who can take on the toughest of Black Arrows and make them very homesick, had just captured more than 1400 square kilometers of territory in Aragon. Fighting in the van with

the Spaniards were the men of the Fifteenth Brigade — las Brigadas Internacionales — and they did sterling work at Belchite and Quinto, winning the high praise of General Pozas, commander of the division.

HOW IT WAS DONE

Nobody can tell the story of Belchite and Quinto better than Captain Bradley who won his stripes for his good work here. Let me tell the story almost as he told it. If anybody knows Belchite it is Captain Bradley whose men at Dead Man's Point built the barricades that did such damage to the fascists. Let him tell you of Quinto, that towering fortification into which the German engineers put a year's work building what they thought would be impregnable defenses.

"At Quinto" Bradley says "the fascists held a large building, biggest in town, commanding the entire position. Walls three feet thick; a regular fortress. The windows had machineguns poked through them, and it would be next to impossible to take Quinto if this place wasn't taken.



"On the afternoon of the day before the last trench position of the fascists was taken, our command asked for volunteers for a bombing squad to wipe out this nest. Ten men were needed and ten men immediately volunteered.

ARMED WITH GLYCERIN

Bradley commanded the group. "We went armed with glycerin bottles, took a position 25 feet from the wall of the building. We hid there and waited till after 25 shells, well directed, hit the place. The walls were so thick they did not demolish the building. The main purpose of the shelling was to force the fascists into their holes, away from the windows with their machineguns and snipers.

"Out of the ten, two were wounded as we snaked our way to the building. Three of the gang had to carry them back. That left five to carry on. We took our bottles, filled with this deadly explosive glycerin, picked windows, and threw them in with well-directed pitches that came from good baseball arms. Tremendous flames exploded inside the building. We came back twice with the bottles and then rolled a big drum of gasoline into the structure with a fuse attached to it. It exploded inside.

"This mission finished we returned to find out how our

other five men were. We wended our way back to where hundreds of our soldiers were standing on a hill, enthused. They had been watching us do this job on the fascist stronghold that had snuffed out the lives of so many of their comrades. The building burned all night.

Bradley then told how the fighting went at Belchite. Here the American boys carried on boldly but cleverly in street to street fighting, infiltrating the town and then going to work, taking house after house.

"We charged uphill some 350 meters under enemy machinegun fire. We could see the faces of the fascists. Three of our men were killed; seven wounded out of 29. The Americans had to put up their machinegun stand. The bullets flew so thick we had to take our ponchoes, fill them with sand, and under that bit of protection, set up the guns.

WHERE REGAN DIED

"We took a street to a point where Charlie Regan was killed. Charlie was one of the bravest men in Spain, a World-war vet and a fighting Irishman with pleasant blue Irish eyes but with a strong determination. Men looked on him as one who would go into the jaws of death for them and they loved him. He had such



GENERAL WALTER, Commander of the 35th Division. Above, at right, another photo of Gen. Walter, on the Aragon front.

a burning hatred of Fascism he'd strip himself of his skin if it would help. He was killed September 5.

"We called where he was killed Dead Man's Point. We had to go up the street and make a perfect cleaning of houses. Our men were hungry but they didn't pick up a piece of bread in the houses they cleaned up. We went this way: four men on the right hand side watching the left side for snipers and four on the left watching the right hand. Two more men looking at the rear. Thus we had perfect protection. Then we came to a point 75 feet from the fascists and could hear their officers, hollering Viva Franco.

MOVE BARRICADES AHEAD

"At Dead Man's Point where the bullets were ricocheting, we built a barricade of bags of grain taken from cellars of abandoned houses, and gave them hell from behind it with bombs and rifles. Then we decided to move the barricades forward, a few feet at a time.

No volunteers were needed or this, two stepped forward immediately. One of them was Ephraim Bartlett, of Denver, Col., a man with some Indian blood, a miner who had been a soldier in the United States Cavalry and who saw a lot of duty on the Mexican front, a man of 45. Back to the sides of the building, he took sack by sack from the barricade, holding them in front of him in direct fire of the enemy, he piled them in the new position. This way we brought the barricade forward under direct enemy fire.

"Then we began to advance through the buildings by digging holes in those thick Spanish walls and here the miners were very proficient. We got a commanding position from two houses on the right and began to harass the enemy by sniping.

700 PRISONERS

"Some of the men heard voices in the cellar of the building. We discovered there was about 150 Fascist soldiers and civilians downstairs. A Spanish

officer began to talk to them through the cellar window. He explained why they ought to surrender, told why we were fighting and they said they would surrender. We took 700 prisoners in three houses right by our barricade.

"About three o'clock in the morning, after a rigid guard all night, the stillness was suddenly exploded like a bolt of lightning. There was suddenly running around in the streets, noises, shots, the bursting of grenades.

"There was a great tension and you had a feeling that now here it comes. This is the payoff — the two bodies were going to collide right now.

LOUD-SPEAKER ARRIVES

"Everybody's nerves were strained. Suddenly you heard all over the city the playing of the Spanish national anthem. The loudspeaker had come up! It was just like pouring oil on troubled waters. Just as if by agreement of both sides, everybody stopped to listen.

"Then there was a short speech that had been prepared by Dave Doran, of the United States. It was translated into Spanish. A simple little speech it was, but its effect was deadly. He told the Fascists how futile their position was. He told them what the Republicans stood for. He told of Mussolini and Hitler and the invaders. Then the National Anthem sounded again.

"Two minutes elapsed. Silence. Then a few scattered shots. We afterward learned these were some fascist officers being killed by their own soldiers. Suddenly we heard the soldiers, the fascist soldiers comrades, bust into singing the Internationale! They started shouting Viva la República! Then we knew victory was ours. Then all their soldiers came over. They surrendered and Belchite, the Fascist stronghold that Napoleon couldn't take, was now in the hands of the International Brigadiers.

— AND SEVEN NUNS

"There was suddenly great jubilation. Not because we beat them, it wasn't only that, but

LOYAL GUERRILLA BANDS MENACE FRANCO'S REAR

VALENCIA.—Guerilla warfare in Franco's rear is assuming serious proportions, judging by reports reaching here at frequent intervals.

In the mountains of Huelva Province, in the South, in the northern Provinces of Galicia, many thousands of Republicans are harassing the Fascist garrisons.

HALF RETURNED

Three thousand guerilla fighters from Viana del Bolla, Orense, make life hectic for the Fascist headquarters at Vigo and Pontavedra. A company of Moors and Phalangists recently sent out to crush them was almost annihilated, barely half of them returning from the expedition into the mountains.

Another two thousand repu-

blicans are established in the mountains of Buama. Most of them are fugitives from Malaga, Rio Tinto and Seville. They are secure in the deep gulleys and craggy mountains, and recently successfully ambushed a force sent out to destroy them.

CAPTURED DYNAMITE

In La Ciana Prieta, in the suburbs of Ardales, and neighboring villages of Malaga Province, numerous bands of Spaniards, who escaped from Malaga, have been persistently attacking the insurgent garrison at Chorro del Agua.

Several times reinforcements have had to be drafted into the area to support the local fascist forces.

One report of an attack on Ardales tells how the raiders carried of 20 cases of dynamite, 410 rifles and many horses. Fifty Phalangists and Civil Guards were wounded in this fight.

AMERICANS BOO MUSSOLINI'S SON

NEW YORK.—When Victorio Mussolini, the son of Italy's dictator arrived here, he was greeted by thousands of people who shouted, "Mussolini is a murderer!", "Expel his son from the United States!" These demonstrations continued with greater enormity at the hotel where he stayed.



at the fraternity when they come over, happy, singing, throwing their arms around us.

Captain Bradley ended his story with this: "We come across seven nuns working in the Belchite fascist hospital, a lot of wounded all around. The fascist officers had escaped, leaving them to their fate. The nuns viewed us with awful suspicion, thinking torture was in store for them. That's what the fascists led them to believe. They looked like they were resigned to death. Then we came forward and gave them milk,

eggs, bread. The medical doctor asked them which were the most seriously wounded cases, as he wanted to give them immediate attention. The nurses gladly showed them. Their faces registered a smile for the first time, and as we helped the sick, the nuns kept saying, "Muy bien — muy bien." That means "Very good, very good." We helped the nuns over the barricade and took them to safety."

That's the story of Belchite, Captain Bradley said.

THE FIFTH COLUMN

The discovery of a vast network of espionage and treason in Madrid has given us a sharp reminder of the work of the enemy in our rear. It is not enough to feel violent indignation against these criminals, it is necessary to consider how they can be fought and overcome. That their activities represent a real danger is shown by previous experiences, and particularly by the events at Santander...

"While we were trying to find a boat the 'Fifth Column', that is to say, the internal enemy, had already come out on the streets. The Fascists set fire to the petroleum supplies and began firing at the Government supply centres", says an English witness, Commander Pursey.

It was work of this kind which was being prepared by the organisation discovered in Madrid.

FASCIST PLANS FOILED

Before November 7th last year, when General Mola was asked by a group of foreign journalists which of the four columns marching on Madrid would take the city, he replied: "Madrid will be taken by the Fifth Column". In other words the Fascists in Madrid would hand over the city to the enemy. Mola made a mistake. The people took the hint, dealt his allies a hard blow, and disorganised the Fifth Column. But it continued to exist.

It is interesting to note the aims of this Madrid organisation which has recently been brought to light.

It was engaged in recruiting men to carry on the public services when (and if) the Fascists entered Madrid. It was collecting information and studying means of conveying it to the enemy: in one premises the authorities discovered a plan of Belchite, an account of our forces in that sector, a report of the present position of the El Campesino (46th) Division, and a note on the evacuation of the Guadalajara hospitals.

A section known as the White Phalangists was organised among the refugees in the various embassies, and particu-



larly in that of Chile, where it is believed that the General Staff of the whole organisation may be found, enjoying a scandalous "diplomatic" immunity. This section, regarded as superior to the others, was to play a leading part in the allocation of posts when the fascists took over the municipal services.

A military section with wide ramifications was entrusted with recruiting soldiers to act in conjunction with the rebel forces in the next fascist attack on Madrid. In particular, they had the task of siezing the main public buildings, the central post, telegraph, transport offices, etc.

A blacklist was being prepared for use in the hypothetical future.

GERMAN, ITALIAN POLICE

We must not forget that at the head of the Fifth Column are the Gestapo and the Italian police with their wide experience. The Gestapo had sent its tentacles through Spain considerably before July 18th, and in fighting the Fifth Column we are not fighting a hasty overnight improvisation.

The spy, the provocateur, the saboteur are the worst enemies of the Spanish People's Revolution. Only implacable and persevering effort, a watch-

fulness neither dulled by excessive confidence nor blinded by undue suspicion, can defeat them. The methods of fascism in Spain — the killing of prisoners, the bombing of open towns where the victims are women and children — these things are sufficiently well known. The methods of the Fifth Column are no more scrupulous or humane: assassination, blackmail, prostitution, the launching of malicious and defeatist rumors, profiteering, the hoarding of foodstuffs, etc., the securing of information by bribery or terror — all these methods are co-ordinated in their plan of campaign. They can adapt themselves to circumstances.

NO HELP FROM US!

Sometimes we ourselves unwittingly assist the enemy. It is all too tempting to come, like Moses from the mountain, to dazzle an astonished audience with brand new information. But the price the Republican cause pays for that momentary feeling of elation and self-importance may be a heavy



one, and neither in Spanish nor in English is it very hard to say: "I don't know."

The fascist agents are not stirring figures surrounded with a mysterious and romantic halo. They are not fit subjects for a sentimental humanitarianism. They would deny liberty, progress, the possibility of a fuller and better life to millions of people, and instead would substitute tyranny and grinding poverty. Such they are, and as such they should be judged.

These people do not work in a vacuum. A traitor who is completely isolated can generally do comparatively little harm. But discord and jealousy between anti-fascists and anti-fascist organisations are treason's best breeding ground. In such an atmosphere it is relatively easy to play one section against another, to take sides, to escape detection, or if detected to cry out against "political victimisation", to make the whole struggle against the Fifth Column much more difficult and obscure by fomenting strife between sincere antifascists.

The Spanish Republic's surest weapon against the Fifth Column is the complete unity of action of all our forces, unity in the People's Front and in support of the Government of the People's Front, unity with one aim: to work together at the fronts and in the rear for the victory over fascism and the triumph of the People's Revolution. All the anti-fascist forces need each other — they cannot light-heartedly dispense with the co-operation of this or that organisation. If their whole strength is directed to this aim, an improved situation in the rear will be reflected in greater and more decisive victories at the front. A store of energy will be released which is at present dormant or spent in all too embittered controversies, or in endeavoring to promote or safeguard the interests of this or that organisation. The work of the Fifth Column will become a hundred times more difficult, and the task of the Republican authorities in unmasking the spies and traitors and giving them their deserts will become a hundred times easier.

In our own Brigades every action, whether conscious or not, which tends to friction or misunderstanding between the Volunteers and the Spanish comrades, or between soldiers of different nationalities or different anti-fascist opinions, only helps Franco. Every action which tends towards a better understanding, a closer People's Front unity, is another nail in the fascist coffin.

A. M. E.

COMRADE BAEDEKER - A SPANISH FANTASY

The other morning as we left the Hotel Alfonso on the Gran Via (where you can get tolerably pale coffee) the fascist artillery undertook its customary trajectory of the city. The spectacle of a lone peasant frantically trying to quiet down his burro in the middle of this highly modern avenue fascinated us until a shell landed too close for poetic sentimentalising. We ducked into a bookstore which looked safe, for its windows were barricaded against shrapnel by stacks and stacks of Platos, Goethes, Hugos, in what, we suppose, was the Spanish edition of the Modern Library.

There was a musty coolness about the place, like a wine cellar, and so we settled down comfortably in a chair to spend a restful couple of hours. Wanting to find out why we had taken to capturing sheep, as well as fascists, on the Aragon front, we picked up a *Baedeker* in the hope that he would give us some clue to what in the social background of sheep impelled them to line up with the fascists. But he gave us no help on this point, and we already knew that sheep had an affinity for sheep-herders.

GOODBYE TO ALL THAT

Although we remained just as muttonheaded about the Aragon front as before, we found our 1920 edition of *Baedeker* a highly absorbing document. It portrayed a Spain and Madrid not even of the Republic (ante July 1936), but of the monarchy. A Madrid of resplendent cafés in which lounged elegant, simpering young men of aristocratic lineage, and apish business men on the make; a Madrid of repression and bureaucracy; a listless Madrid stultified by the feudal social relationships that still existed; a Madrid of museums filled with marvellous paintings that it had inherited from the past, but whose traditions the existing ruling classes were impotent to continue. It portrayed a lazy indolent Spain, and was silent about the oppressed but vital

IN WHICH THE OLD TOURIST PULLS A RIP VAN WINKLE IN MADRID, AND HITS THE HIGH SPOTS AT THE SAME TIME THE SHELLS DO

forces of the proletariat and peasantry whose rich spiritual strength would ultimately create a new and dynamic Spain.

We decided it would be fun to take Rip Van Winkle Baedeker out of his musty refuge on a tour of the tumultuous, indomitable Madrid of today. El Señor Baedeker has never quite gotten round to visiting Soviet Russia and we wanted to guarantee against a similar oversight of revolutionary Spain. Don't get a misimpression: we have a real affection for Karl Baedeker. Among tourist manuals his is the most thorough, accurate and concise, and if he inclines to see cities in static terms of museums, statues, churches and palaces, that is more the fault of his clientele, who like their history mummified.

AFTER THE SHELLING

So, when the shells began to come more slowly we went out. It was like when a heavy rain has let up for a moment and one can still hear the thunder in the distance. People were furtively darting out of doorways and making a run for their destinations. A few more hardy ones were inspecting the effects. When it appeared that the holocaust was over the streets soon were crowded again and people were in tumultuous and boisterous movement. With Karl we walked down the Calle Montera. A shell had hit the top story of an apartment house and dislodged huge boulders into the street. Others still hung precariously on high. We made a wide detour, but on the second story a nonchalant Madrileña was dusting the debris off her balcony.

We descended into the Puerta del Sol. Karl was quite intimidated by the burly throngs of soldiers although he was somewhat reassured by the

stream of water that some street cleaners were laying down on the hot pavement. That was a thread of continui-



ty with the past. We noticed that he was attracting attention in his bourgeois garments of 1920, so we took him into a shop and bought him khaki pants and a khaki shirt. Outside we purchased a Sam Brown belt and enough stripes so that he would rank as a *commandante*, which, with his distinguished Van Dyck, would get us by even a *Garde d'Asalte*.

THE TOURS BEGINS

We asked our ancient friend where he would want to go first. He hesitated between the Prado, aristocratic avenue of mansions and museums, and a walk toward the western side of the city where were the Royal Palace, the Almudena Cathedral, etc. Since he had not seen the latter, we went there first. We went along the Calle Mayor which took us through the Plaza de la Constitucion or Plaza Mayor. Karl told us that this square dated back to the 16th century and that the equestrian statue of Philip III which was in the center dated back to 1613. The square had been a theatre of tourneys in

the days of decadent knighthood, of executions, of *auto-da-fes*, of horse races and bull-fights. Its balconies could hold 50,000. Now all the pavement had been torn up by shrapnel, but Philip still was untouched.

As we approached the Palace, a large green vista opened up before us. Karl's eyes lighted up: "We can go for a nice cool walk in the Casa del Campo", he said. At which point he was startled by staccato noise of a machine gun, excellently grouped. An excited Spanish guard waved to us. Where was our "Salvoconducto"? We pointed to Karl's stripes. Our guard looked dubious, but at that point our friend Baedeker had lost his heart for further advance. He could see, he said, even from the distance, that the Palace was unharmed save for fascist shells. He'd much rather see the Prado, he said. Nor could we persuade him to take a look at the Almudena Cathedral to see that as much as had been built was intact.

BAEDEKER BEWILDERED

As we returned toward the Puerta del Sol he asked us what were the icehouses and sea walls made out of paving stones that he noted in all the streets near the city's extremity. And we told him how women, children and men had abandoned everything last October to fortify their city, and make it, if the fascists should ever really penetrate into it, literally the tomb of fascism.

We went down the Calle de Alcalá. Our distinguished tourist insisted on stopping in all the old and famous cafés. He noted how, despite the turbulence of the war, the brasses were scrupulously polished, and the upholstery carefully treated by the ever-changing groups of soldiers that came in to quench their thirst. At Molinero's we tried the peach ice cream (*helado*). Not badly made, he said, considering the lack of milk. At Negresco's we sipped a *Naranjada*, a sweet

(Continued on next page.)

LETTERS

from

HOME

From An "Epic" in California

My dear friend J: I surely appreciated seeing another letter from you in the Epic News this week, and I hope that your wound is not too serious. This morning I received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. M, which contained a letter from you which I am enclosing...

All true lovers of democracy throughout America are showing an intense interest in the duly elected democratic loyalist government of Spain. Everyone seems to realize that the fascist powers of Franco, Germany and Italy are a threat to real democracy throughout the world. The enclosed clipping from the Wilmington Daily Press tells of the next big meeting to be held in Los Angeles. The San Pedro and Wilmington Spanish-American club held a party last Saturday night in San Pedro to help raise funds for the Loyalist cause. I understand that about 300 were present. They plan another party September 12.

We had one meeting in Wilmington Bowl in which I think we raised close to 500 dollars. Our Wilmington Epic-Democratic club is tonight going to lay plans for getting together with union labor and other progressive organizations here in the harbor district to have the film "The Spanish Earth" shown here; and the proceeds will go toward providing medical care and food for the needy Loyalist people of Spain.

I realize that you cannot write many individual letters, but I hope you will write often to the Epic News because in that way thousands of people read your letters and learn just what is going on in Spain. With best wishes, your friend B.

Wilmington, Calif. August 26, 1937.

Another I. L. A. District Goes C. I. O.

Dear Z: We received your letter and were certainly glad to hear from you, as we heard a rumor around here that you had been killed. Well, your letter assured us that it was, after all, only a rumor...

The Local is still going strong... P. D. is working out of the hall again, and Ted is out organizing for the A.F. of L. and I'm still pounding the typewriter. That was a very interesting letter you sent us, so interesting in fact that the Publicity Committee put it on the front page of our bulletin, as you will notice when you read the one I enclose...

District 38 of the I.L.A. has gone C.I.O. with a big bang. We voted down here in favor of it too. So, now the name of the organization is: The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, no longer affiliated with J.P. Ryan or the I.L.A. Now it is the I.L.W.U. Hooray for Harry Bridges!

Your friend has been paying your dues, Z., so you need not worry about that. When do you think you'll be home again? Or do you intend to settle down there and marry that little good looking Spanish nurse you were telling us about (What do you think my heart is made of???)

Write real soon and tell us more news.

Best of luck.

M. T.

HOW GARCIA LORCA WENT TO HIS DEATH

(Continued from page 3.)

with blood, and gazed at them. Astounded the Civils climbed into their autos. Only Lt. Medina came closer. He struck the poet over the head with the butt of his pistol. This time Garcia Lorca collapsed to the ground enriched by his blood for the last time. Medina discharged three barrel-loads of bullets into the lifeless body.

"There the poet remained unburied—in front of his Granada."

COMRADE BAEDEKER

(Continued from page 7.)

drink made out of saccharine and syrup.

We sauntered down towards the Prado. Our by now "comrade" was amused to see the statue of Cybeles in the Plaza del Castelar encased in a brick covering to protect it against shrapnel. "La Linda Tapida", the Covered Beauty, the Madrileños have rechristened their dear goddess. Apollo and Neptune further down the Prado had similar encasements.

Nothing quite so endeared proletarian Madrid to our ancient friend, as the care with which the palms and shady oak trees and the green walks of the Prado had been kept up. With an effort, he even suffered the new name that the Avenue had been given, "Avenue of Proletarian Unity". And all the mansions and little palaces that had been taken over by various organizations he was easily reconciled to: "From what I have already seen, they will get better care and be placed to better uses now."

Finally we reached the Museum of the Prado, one of the most famous in the world. There we were told that all the valuable art treasures and as many as could be saved from the Duke of Alba's palace, which had been fired by fascist incendiary bombs, had been transferred to safety, chiefly in Valencia, where they were being catalogued. "I must go there", the old man said. "Can I get a train?" We told him he'd travel much faster in a camion, especially if it was driven by an American from the Auto Park.

We went up towards the beautiful "Retiro Park". It is bordered by what was the Calle de Alfonso XIII in 1920, the Calle de Alcalá Zamora in 1936, and today is Calle de Reforma Agraria. This tickled us almost as much as the Calle de Milicias Marxistas Unificadas, which ran into it.

In the shady "Retiro" we sat down on a bench. Everything here seemed like old times to Comrade Baedeker. An old man was sleepily reading his newspaper. A mother was crôchet-

ting. Her baby was playing in the dirt. Karl relaxed and stretched out his spindly legs. But then the 15.5's began to mutter in the distance. Karl looked at us as if to say, "Shouldn't we get back to our bookstore refuge?" But our bench neighbors put him to shame. "They sound far off", said the mother and returned to her knitting. "They are less dangerous when they hit the dirt, than when they hit the paving stones", said the old one from in his newspaper.

Comrade Baedeker could not help but love this gallant Madrid.

J. P. L.

SPANISH YOUTH MEETS

(Continued from page 1.)

1. The J. S. U. dedicates itself to strengthening the Alianza de la Juventud. (This is the national organization made up of different youth groups. The J. S. U., which is the unification between Socialist and Communist youth, is part of this larger body.)

2. Culture is no longer the privilege of the powerful few, but a social function open for all youth. He explained how 40 institutions of learning were closed down by the fascists; on the other hand hundreds of new schools have been opened by Republican Spain. The salaries in fascist territory have been brutally cut, whereas in loyalist Spain wages have increased.

3. Efforts must be made to raise the cultural level of the peasant youth, and also their working conditions. Land must be given to those peasant fighters who desire it.

4. To work for unity among all youth at all times, performing constructive work that tends to build harmony.

5. To wipe away all counter-revolutionary forces that try to split the youth, especially Trotskyites.

6. To intensify work in the centers of production, raising the cultural level of the youth in the factories.

7. Above all to organize the youth in one organization of combat against fascism, in order to win the war.

J. T.

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The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades ★

OCTOBER 14, 1936-1937 ★ ONE YEAR of the INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES



A YEAR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

"We make only one request—that we be sent to the posts of greatest danger."

These were the words of the leaders of the first battalion of International Volunteers, a full year ago. For many months, from the very beginning of the Franco rebellion, men of all lands who happened to be in Spain at the time had volunteered their services in the government ranks. British and German and French and Austrian and Italian—men of all nations, living in peace or in exile—came of their own free will to serve in the People's Army of Freedom. At first they served among their Spanish brothers, storming the Montana Barracks in Madrid, the well fortified arsenals in Barcelona, the strongholds in Valencia—all the centers of fascist power and concentration in all of Spain. But later, as the war progressed, as the fascists were held back by this wall of vulnerable but unconquerable flesh and spirit, other men came from other lands.

MODEL FOR FUTURE

Converging on Albacete, they formed, for the first time in history, the International Brigades—an army which may well, as one writer has put it, "form the model for the democratic armies of the future."

The concentration camps of Hitler were not strong enough to hold the German fighters who saw in the Spanish struggle a means of fighting back against the brown terror. No ocean was too wide, no frontier too difficult for these men—our comrades in battle.

MAKERS OF HISTORY

The stories of the early days of the defense of Madrid have been told and re-told a hundred times, and will be told again, many more hundreds of times. As long as men treasure their liberties as men, as long as justice and truth and courage and self-abnegation are virtues in the eyes of humankind—so long will the story of the International Brigades live in the history of man's achievements. But the time for the writing of history has not yet arrived. Perhaps it would be better to say that the final history of our activities in Spain must await the day when we have won the leisure and the

freedom that will enable us to reap the fruits of victory towards which our battles of today are leading. We can recall at this point the words of one of the



FEBRUARY COMMANDER

Robert H. Merriman, Chief of Staff of the 15th Brigade, who commanded the Lincoln Battalion in its February actions on the Jarama front.

greatest figures of our own century, who put down the pen before he had completed one of his greatest works with the following simple explanation:

"It is more... useful to go through the experience of the revolution than to write about it."

OUR OWN ANNIVERSARY

What of our own English-speaking comrades of the International Brigades? The British were here from the very start. A part of their story is told elsewhere in this issue. For us, of the United States, and our brothers from Canada, the journey was longer. One or two Americans came in the early weeks and months of the war, but our first large contingent of volunteers did not arrive until the first days of this year—two months after most of the European nations had begun to contribute their fighters to the cause of Spanish democracy and freedom.

As Americans, we will celebrate

our anniversary on January 5, 1938.

As members of the International Brigades, our anniversary is that of all our comrades—October 14, 1937.

HONOR TO OUR DEAD

In celebrating the first anniversary of the formation of the International Brigades, let us do honor to those comrades of all nations who have given their lives in our fight. Let us remember the deaths of Ben Leider, American aviator, shot down by a fascist plane; Ralph Fox of England; General Lukacz of Hungary; Alfred Bruger of France; Doctor Heilbrunn of Germany; Guido Picelli of Italy; Hans Beimler of Germany; D. E. Seacord of the United States; John Scott of England, who had come here from America; Bill Henry and James McCrotty and Liam Tumilson of Ireland; Blagoye Parovitch of Yugoslavia; Rodolfo de Armas and Pablo de la Torriente-Brau of Cuba; Jack Shirai of Japan, who fought with the Lincoln Battalion; Alonso Watson, the first American Negro killed fighting for Spain.

There are other names to be remembered, and other events. The February days on the Jarama, when the first American battalion, composed of new and rapidly-trained recruits, went over the top under the hellish fire of the fascists, forcing the battle and thus halting the enemy's advance in the Jarama River Valley. Let us remember the days of February 23rd and 27th, of April 5th, and

the long, seemingly-endless days afterward when our comrades held the lines, living in trenches for a longer period than any army of modern times.

By our actions of today can we do greatest honor to the memories of John Lenthier, Charles Edwards, Paul Niepold, Rudolph Tieger, Joe Streisand, Carl Carlson; Julius Rosenthal, the oldest, and William Pick, the youngest member of the Lincoln Battalion—all of whom were killed in the February fighting.

By our actions of today can we pay greatest homage to our dead of the July offensive outside of Madrid; Oliver Law, Negro commander of the Lincoln Battalion; Max Krauthamer; Paddy O'Neill and Joe Armitage of Canada; John Muso and Charles Siebert of the United States, Mike Kelly of Ireland—all of the Lincoln Battalion.

And in the same offensive, we can recall the names of our dead from the second American battalion, the Washington Battalion, which received its baptism of fire in July: Harry Hynes, Sam Stone, Morris Wickman, Rubin Schechter, Ernest Arion, Malcolm Chisholm and a number of other comrades.

CREATING AN EPIC

And, in the early days of the Aragon offensive by the Peoples Army, the offensive which conquered Quinto and Belchite for us—Peter Daly, commander of the British Battalion; and Paul Block, Daniel Hutner, Sam Levenger, Sidney Shostack, all Americans...



I. B. ON PARADE: An early photo of the International Volunteers.

When the history of the liberation of Spain from fascism is finally written, these names and those of many others, from all countries, will be the pegs on which are hung the many actions, large and small, individual and collective, which combined in a great effort form the very heart of history. The deeds which they performed and which we continue to perform here, have already become the great epic of our times an epic which we ourselves will read and contemplate when the tough fight is over.

FASCISM WEAKENING

And that this fight is drawing closer and closer to victory is evident from everything that is happening, not only in Spain, but in the entire world today. Everywhere fascism is discovering that its cold-blooded murders and aggressions are being resisted. Japan expected an overnight victory in China—but the Chinese masses, united, have fought the Japanese legions to a standstill; and now Japan fears for the future, because it counted on a rapid victory, the only kind of victory possible. Now the Japanese warlords find their supplies dwindling, their rear-guard wavering, their economy staggering under the cost of the extended war.

Italy and Germany too are finding that have bitten off more than they can chew. Not only do internal difficulties increase tenfold each week in these fascist countries, but popular sentiment, long smoldering, has begun at last to burst into the flame of open opposition. The new and harassing activities of Ethiopia's armies will make it double difficult for Italy to continue its past stream of aid to the traitor Franco. And Germany's tottering economy attacks its rear in the same manner as Italy's defeated but unconquered North Africans.

Most hopeful of all, the international scene seems finally to be operating in favor of the legally constituted government of Spain. France fears to face the possibility of another enemy frontier to the south; and both France and England have stretched their patience to the pirates who have sunk their merchant vessels on the Mediterranean. Popular mass opinion in both France and England grow stronger and stronger, and must soon force the hand of even the most wa-



THEIR LAST CUP of coffee before battle: Part of the very first group of international volunteers, just before they left for the front outside Madrid last autumn.

vering and double-dealing diplomat to come out openly for the only side which possesses justice—the legal Popular Front government of Spain.

When we view all of these developments, when we hear of President Roosevelt's attack on the "gangster, aggressor nations", when we hear of the support we are gaining at home, we can not but become realistically optimistic.

And when we couple all of these events with the growth and emergence of Spain's Popular Army, which soon will number one million well-trained and well-ar-

med men, we have further cause for rejoicing.

And when, in addition, we see the efforts toward unity within our own land—Spain—bearing always greater fruit—then we can be sure that the first year of the International Brigades in Spain has been well spent. For it was our example which prompted many of the lagging elements to speed, to efficiency, to courage and to victory.

The first anniversary occurs at a time when, for three months, we have taken over the offensive in the war against fascism. The main

fronts have been the scenes of victory after victory for us. Each day that we hold out—let alone advance, which we have been doing—makes victory more certain.

It is in this spirit that we welcome our anniversary—with pride in our role, with gratitude for our opportunity to take such a part in the history of our times, and with solidarity toward the Spanish people, whose fight is the fight of all who hold freedom precious, and whose final victory will be a victory not only for Spain, but for all mankind.

E. R.

NO PASARAN!

TO «PASIONARIA»

What fascist has been so idiotic as to have sheltered the obscene hope of entering Madrid, tranquilly, blazing his egoism on the march?

The traitor Mola? Franco, the assassin? Cabanellas, the filthy fool? Or was it by chance the drunken impenitent in Seville who drowns his fears in wines?

Let the traitors lose their hopes of ever treading the Madrileños with their hoofs! Impossible fruit of their illusions. Let the workers be alert forming a thick forest of rifles, and a valley of tenacious hearts.

FELIX V. RAMOS

Dr. Negrin Visits Wounded Men of the I. B.

VALENCIA, Oct. 6.—A visit by Dr. Juan Negrin to the wounded comrades in the International Brigade hospital yesterday was greeted with heartfelt enthusiasm. He first went through the wards where the most serious cases were confined, talking with men of all nationalities. After giving the wounded a short talk, he was interviewed by our English comrade, Wintringham, author of the book "The Next War", and by Comrade Gustave Regler, the German writer who was seriously wounded several months ago. Wintringham was wounded on the Aragon front.

ENRIQUE LISTER - AN EMIGRANT COMES HOME



ENRIQUE LISTER

A División Commander of the 5th Army Corps of the Peoples Army.

When the Civil War in Spain broke out, only four regiments of the regular army remained loyal to the government. All the rest of the troops went over to the side of the Fascist rebels. The result was that the Spanish people had to create their own army, and develop their own military leaders. From squads of workers, many of them without guns, who went out from Madrid in taxicabs to stave off the enemy advance, from such non-military elements, in fourteen months the government has built up a well-organized and disciplined People's Army. And from the people themselves have come leaders to guide and direct this army. And few of them were military men a year and a half ago. Duran, for example, was a musician writing ballet-scores for the dancer, Argentiña. Modesto was a carpenter. El Campesino worked among the peasants. And Enrique Lister, of whom I write, used to be a grocery boy and a stone-cutter in Cuba.

THE POT OF GOLD

No, Lister is not a Cuban, but he is one of the thousands of Spaniards who emigrated to the Americas looking for a pot of gold at the foot of a foreign rainbow. Like thousands of these thousands, Lister did not find gold. In Cuba he found only hard work, low pay, and dreams that didn't come true. Like the Spanish immigrants in New York, or in the steel mills of Gary and Youngstown, Lister

discovered in Havana that the main use which America has for foreigners is to make of them a reserve of cheap labor to do the hardest and dirtiest work for the lowest pay. So, very early in life, Lister learned the difference between those who have nothing and must work for a living, and those who have money and property and can afford to hire others.

Lister went to Cuba as a child of twelve with his father and his brothers. He was put to work as grocery boy in Havana store. He worked fourteen hours a day, wrapping packages, cleaning up, delivering orders. He did not know how to read and write. When he was fifteen years old he decided to learn. He went to night classes at the Galician Center. For two hours every night, after his long day's work, he studied spelling and grammar, and struggled to form letters in a copy book.

LEARNS FATHER'S TRADE

Being a strong boy, he decided to take up the trade of his father and become a stone-cutter. There was a great deal of building going on in Havana in the 1920's. Lister worked on various constructions then underway. But the stone-cutters had no union. They needed one, so Lister took part in the issuing of the first call to form a stone-cutter's union in Cuba, and he became one of its members. This was in 1925 when he was eighteen years old. The following year, already experienced in union organization, he went back to Spain, to his native Galicia. Here he was immediately arrested as a dangerous character with advanced ideas. For the next three or four years, he was continually in and out of prison and always in great disfavor with the officers of the Spanish monarchy, who had no desire to see Spanish workers organized into effective unions.

BACK TO SPAIN

When the Republic was declared in 1931, and Lister was released from a thirteen month's prison term, he was elected President of one of the most important unions of Coruna. Shortly after he took office, there was a strike in which fighting broke out and, in the struggle, a reactionary em-

ployer was killed. As President of the union, Lister was again arrested, and sentenced to thirty years in prison. He escaped and went abroad. But he could not keep out of the struggle and ferment for democracy that was then sweeping through all Spain, so he returned to live illegally from town to town in his own country. When the People's Front came to power in February, 1936, he was in Madrid. And when in July the generals and big industrialists rose up against this people's government and ordered their soldiers to fire from the Montana Barracks on the citizens of Madrid, Lister was in the crowd that stormed those barracks and took them over for the government. A few days later he was in the Guadarrama Mountains fighting against the Fascist foes. But not only fighting. Lister realized at once Spain's need for disciplined forces, and he began immediately to help organize what was to become the new army of the republic.

ROSE IN THE RANKS

From untrained men to disciplined soldiers. From workers, many of whom never handled a gun before, to the army which now efficiently defends all loyalist Spain. That is an achievement in which Lister has played a great part. He himself rose rapidly in the ranks of this army. In the early days of the war, he was made lieutenant. And with the formation of the now famous Fifth Regiment (really the first regiment of the new loyalist army) Lister was raised to captain and given two companies of shock troops to direct. In his first skirmish with the enemy, he took seven prisoners and two machine guns. Shortly thereafter, he was made a Commander. And in the early autumn of last year, the Fifth Regiment chose him as Commander-in-Chief. Then the government ordered him to organize the first brigade of the People's Army, a job which meant making soldiers of men with no previous experience in warfare. The glorious history of this brigade and the way it took part in the defence of Madrid during the dark days of November, 1936, is now one of the flaming epics of the Spanish Republic. The Fascists did not pass! Madrid held its own.

Now its citizens feel that their city will never be taken.

LISTER'S RECORD

During the last year, Lister and his men have passed over half the war-map of Spain: Jarama, Guadalajara, Garabitas, Toledo, Valdemoros, Brunete, Aragon. And Lister's name itself has become a symbol of bravery and leadership in Spain.

When I interviewed him, he was in Valencia on his way from one front to another. He is a young man, only thirty. Heavy set. Strong determined face. A quick mind. A great memory for dates and places. It was after ten o'clock at night when Lister and his aides came into the building where I had been waiting to interview him.

"Too late", I thought. "I'll merely make an appointment for another time."

But when I asked him when I might have an interview, Lister's reply was, "Now!"

4 BROTHERS KILLED

No hesitation, no postponement. And as he talked, there was no boasting, no pompousness. Quite simply, he told me the story of his life, and of the dramatic incidents of the war months. He spoke of four brothers killed by the Fascists in the North, and of the bewilderment of his father at a world in which sons grew up only to be killed.

"We must end this war quickly" Lister said. "I do not doubt that



LA PASIONARIA.
addressing the soldiers.

the victory is ours. We have a million men in reserve. The enemy lacks men. But what we must do now is organize all our forces, military and industrial, so as to end this war soon."

WHAT LISTER LEARNED

He spoke like a man who does not relish warfare and killing, but who is a lover of work and life. Someday, he says he would like to go back to Cuba. He remembers that it was there that he learned to read and write, having been denied schooling as a child in Spain. But he remembers, too, that in Cuba he worked fourteen hours a day -- and his employers were Spaniards like himself, not Cubans. What he learned from that is that one's own people will exploit you just as much as foreigners will -- that it's not racial differences that count, but class differences! So in Cuba, Lister joined his first union, and took his first steps toward the defense of the rights of the common working people. Today, in Spain, he is one of the great commanders of the People's Army. Enrique Lister -- the immigrant boy who came home bringing not a pot of gold from the foot of a foreign rainbow, but instead a mind and a heart full of the strength which people pour into the channels of unionization and into organized action for the creation of a democracy where Fascism cannot exist. Lister is helping Spain maintain and strengthen such a democracy. L. H.



ETHIOPIA, STILL UNCONQUERED, CHALLENGES MUSSOLINI'S RULE

JIBUTI. -- That uprisings and organized fighting, in addition to guerilla warfare are going on between the Abyssinians and the Italians, is now confirmed, in spite of the fascists special measures to prevent the news from leaking out. The last few weeks have witnessed a greater degree of unrest among the Ethiopian people, who are making it impossible for the Italians to remain there without fighting every inch of the way.

Fighting rages on the north, east, and south, around Addis Ababa. A regular fighting army is being organized by the Ethiopians, in which already there are thousands of volunteer soldiers under the command of Kanyazmash Abeba Arragai Bobana. This young army, formed under the one banner of unity, scored an important victory recently when it met the Italian troops and wiped them out, in the province of Morat. This was effected by a neatly executed strategy at a moment when the Italians advanced with an army of 5,000 men. Kanyazmash permitted the

Italians to advance rapidly, while he ordered his men to retire in such a way that a circle was formed around the advancing Italians. Then the poorly clothed and badly armed Ethiopians attacked and completely routed the Italians who lost practically all of their men.

ITALIANS JITTERY

In Addis Ababa, the capital, severe measure have been taken by the Italian-controlled government. Everybody is obliged to shut his doors at 6 p. m. No one is permitted to leave his house after that hour. High barricades have been constructed at the city limits to stop the Ethiopians who want to take back their capital.

In some places the natives are meeting the brutality of Italian fascism with passive resistance. Especially is this the case among the Mahometanas tribes that form 90 percent of an Ethiopian province. These tribes are forced to take their livestock, sheep, cows, goats, and their grains, vegeta-

bles, etc. to an Italian agency that pays them a low price. Then these very same people are compelled to buy back a portion of their products, but at a higher rate than they received for them. This, they say, they cannot understand.

NATIVE WOMEN RAPED

The Abyssinians have protested to the Italian Governor, that before the Italians invaded their land, their women were never dishonored by any man, even in the absence of their husbands. Now the women are being mistreated, they claim, and ferociously attacked by the Italian soldiers, regardless of whether their husbands are present or not. And husbands who have dared to protect their wives have been slaughtered like dogs.

While the Ethiopian people are fighting for their national independence, as are the Spaniards, European diplomats are planning to recognize Mussolini's right of sovereignty over these people.



HAILE SELASSIE

Emperor of Ethiopia, who is directing his peoples' fight against Mussolini

NEW TASKS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

The development of the People's Army and of the International Brigades confronts us with some new problems in our military and political work.

Since in their large majority our Brigades are now composed not of volunteers but of conscripts, there are some who doubt whether they can still be used as real shock Brigades.

This is a big mistake.

In these new drafts which are now joining the Army, we have the Spanish people, in all its aspects, taking up arms. We have the whole people rising to defend its liberty, its independence, its future.

Each day the facts show that this people is capable of heroism in every shape and form.

In the last offensive event, proved that the new conscripts are capable of the highest deeds, like their comrades, the volunteers who preceded the People's Army.

ARAGON VICTORIES

The new recruits, together with the experienced soldiers from the trenches of Madrid, carried out skilful manoeuvres and conquered Quinto and Belchite.

In Aragon, together with the International Volunteers, these absolutely new recruits stormed forts which were very strongly defended by blockhouses of reinforced concrete.

All these facts show that the new conscripts can be made into splendid soldiers.

With them we can not only maintain our shock Brigades, we can strengthen them still further. These new men can be given enthusiasm and fighting spirit of the volunteers of the early days.

This depends only on us, the experienced fighters, the military and political leaders, who have gained such valuable experience during this year of warfare.

The tasks which face us now are a little more complex. In some aspects they are a little more difficult. But we can and must solve them.

When we were dealing only with volunteers already selected for their long record as revolutionary fighters, the task of the military and political command was fairly simple. Moreover, the character of the war during the early months of our first Brigades was



LUIGI GALLO
Inspector General of the International Brigades.

simple; it was a question of resisting, of staying at one's post, of not throwing down one's arms.

The revolutionary consciousness, the spirit of sacrifice of our volunteers, was more than sufficient to make them acquit themselves gloriously in the defence of Madrid, in the struggle in all sectors.

NOW ON OFFENSIVE

But now we are counterattacking; we are taking the offensive; we are advancing; we are manoeuvring; we must carry into battle and on to victory great masses of men who are still insufficiently trained.

It is true that war, and, above all, this war in Spain, which is so fundamentally a war of the people, being a struggle against barbarism and foreign invasion, rapidly draws into political life millions and millions of new men whose political sense is forged in battle. It is the task of all the experienced fighters in our Brigades to make these men brave

and conscious soldiers of the Republic.

We are not only faced with a problem of political propaganda and enlightenment. We have also a problem of organisation and military training.

The more complicated tasks which confront our Brigades in the present stage of the war demand a high level of military training from our troops. The section, Company and Battalion should be able to manoeuvre during the day and at night, with or without cover; they should be able to take full advantage of the possibilities offered by the ground, of all the elements in the situation; they should know how to conquer positions, how to take fortresses regarded as impregnable. For the soldiers of the Republic no positions should be impregnable.

The time has gone by when we could be satisfied if our men had a thorough understanding of the rifles and machine guns entrusted to them. Now they must advance

and manoeuvre. Their military knowledge must be at a higher level. They must be able to take hundreds and thousands of men through difficult operations. They must be able to direct these men under the most difficult conditions.

To do all that we need a training and a discipline much higher than before.

There are those who believe that during rest periods it is aggravating and idiotic to carry out military exercises.

They too make a big mistake.

In the daring and complicated manoeuvres with which we are concerned now, success is impossible without the greatest discipline and the perfect execution of movements according to plan.

Discipline and training are not things invented to make the soldiers' lives miserable. They are the prime necessities of an army.

We ourselves, the soldiers, should demand these things, so that we can make our units into invincible units which will assure us of success and victory with the minimum sacrifice.

ABILITY TO LEAD

Every individual soldier, too, should increase his military abilities on his own initiative. Each officer, each commissar, conscious of the new and greater demands made by the war, should profit by the experience of the war to increase by practice and study his ability to lead.

It is only WITH A CLOSE UNITY BETWEEN SOLDIERS AND LEADERS, between experienced soldiers and new recruits, between volunteers and conscripts that we shall be able to put our Brigades, our Army in a position to solve brilliantly and rapidly the great tasks which lie before them, to win a speedy victory over fascism.

As always, the Volunteers of the International Brigades, should be entirely at the disposal of the commanders of the Regular Spanish Army to carry out these tasks.

As always it should be our ambition to be able to rank among the best fighters in Spain in the fulfilment of the tasks assigned us.

LUIGI GALLO
Inspector General
of the International Brigades.

BRITONS AND THE ANNIVERSARY

Anniversaries are the milestones along the road of History, they are the points which bring sharply to our memories the distance that we have travelled, and, though we may not stop, we can and do reflect on all the experiences we have had, and we can mend our pace according to the distance we have yet to travel. The first anniversary of the first International Brigade will be a day of rejoicing but not of rest, we have not yet reached our goal, we must learn from this year-long experience to hasten to its attainment.

It is perhaps with a little justifiable pride that we British comrades can reflect upon the assistance which our countrymen gave towards the formation of the first Brigade. Who can ever forget the almost legendary figures who came from our isles, who fought and died beside their Spanish brothers in the first flush of the revolt? Who among us who had not yet seen the necessity for our assistance here itself, can forget the reports and dispatches of Frank Pitcairn, the first British journalist to make and keep us aware of the heroic struggles and the dire need of assistance of the Spanish people? Even yet, on reflection, one can almost feel the cold wind from the Gaudarramas when he described our comrades freezing there, one can sense their first bitterness at the monstrous character of the revolt, one can recall our own first feeling of pride at the description of their selflessness and heroism.



RALPH FOX
British writer killed in Spain.

Fortunately for the honour of our country (when so much has been done by traitors and statesmen to dishonour it) the first days of the outbreak found British comrades actually in Spain. Their actions and their deaths do not wipe out the gross treachery of our Edens, the callousness—to use no harder word—of our Citrines and our Bevins, but they were the highest expression of the solidarity of the British democrats with their Spanish brothers. We shall remember them.

Then came the steady flow from all the corners of the world to form the first international column. Here too, the presence of British comrades showed that the British workers and intellectuals had quickly grasped the seriousness of the situation. That was the explanation for the groups of workers and students who made

their way to Spain from our shores, even before the time when there were sufficient internationals to form a brigade. In those days one talked of groups, centuries, and the Column.

HONOR ROLL

Who were those comrades whose bodies were the first barricades to stem the fascist advance? Arnold Jeans, the mature working-class fighter who died as he had lived; Martin Messer, the young, sincere railway clerk who tried to prove to himself that he was worthy of the cause—and did so; James Kermode, communist organizer from Milngavie; and Jimmy Hyndman the Glasgow youth who would not be denied: these were among the first who died. There



JOHN CORNFORD
English student leader, killed on his 21st birthday.

were others too. John Cornford, the brilliant student whose death in December shocked working class and university circles alike, had fought since the September days; and Tommy Flynn who died as late as April of this year had fought continuously since November with the German comrades who had pleaded with him to stay with them even after the formation of the British Battalion.

OUR MACHINE GUNNERS

At that period the words British and Machine-gunner were synonymous. The British comrade who turned up among a group of Internationals was always handed the machine gun. The first British comrades in Spain had made such a reputation as machine

gunners that all who came after them from the same country were just naturally regarded as being of the same capabilities. Nor can it be said that this reputation was ever impaired.

It is a year and over since Mackenzie and Sommerfield, Gillan and Cunningham, Cohen and Lesser came as the vanguard of the British democrats to Spain. Afterward we increased our numbers and increased our efforts. The tens became hundreds, the hundreds became thousands. We made and maintained a Battalion: we have made and maintained a record to be proud of.

British comrades preceded and helped to form the first International Brigade. British comrades have fought continuously ever since. That is our record and that is the example we have to continue. We have been here from the first, we shall be here to the last. This should be our slogan: "From the bitter first to the glorious end!"

A. J.

CORRECTION

A picture which appeared on page one of the September 20th issue of *The Volunteer for Liberty* (No. 15), showing a group of men with levelled rifles leading other, white-shirted figures down a road, was miscaptioned. The printed caption, it has been called to our attention, should have read as follows:

"Fascist leading non-combatant prisoners to their execution."



ANDRE MALRAUX
who headed the famous Malraux Squadron.



MACHINE GUN COMPANY in one of the first international battalions.

The World Situation -

Unevenly, with interruptions, but yet month by month, the tension of the world situation grows. The forces of peace, gathering their strength under the fascist threat of world war, race neck and neck with the forces of aggression.

To the members of the International Brigades, aiding the Spanish people in their struggle for independence, the outcome of the competition between the forces of peace and war is of supreme importance, for, as our presence in Spain indicates, the struggle here is closely bound up

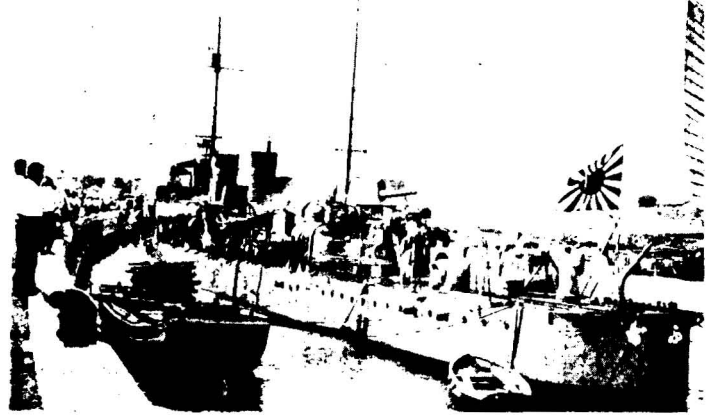


MEDITERRANEAN PIRATE Mussolini, dressed in one of the hundreds of uniforms so much in demand by him and his psychopathic German relative, Goering.

corded in these columns, the fascist powers grow desperate and resort to piracy in the Mediterranean, a piracy directed not only against the ships of the Spanish Republic, but against those of other powers too.

The Nyon conference, thanks to the determined and courageous stand of the representative of the Soviet Union, took the first halting steps towards the revival of collective security in Europe, albeit against the wishes of some of those present at the conference. It is certain that the fascists will not take this blow without attempting to extend their aggressions in other directions. Already it is reported that Mussolini has "loaned" twelve submarines to Franco, complete with crews and officers, and has the intention of sending another army of 150,000 equipped Italian soldiers to Spain, the number named by Franco as being the very fewest with which he can hope to win the war. Great Britain and France, disturbed by the possibility of an Italy entrenched on this side of the Pyrenees, have again revived the question of the withdrawal of volunteers in Spain, this time demanding a reply from the fascists within fifteen days, failing which the French frontier is to be opened and the right to buy arms restored to the Spanish Government.

Another Popular Front Government is being pursued by the over-



ONE OF JAPAN'S ships of war, now engaged in brutally shelling the crowded workers' sections of China's seaboard cities.

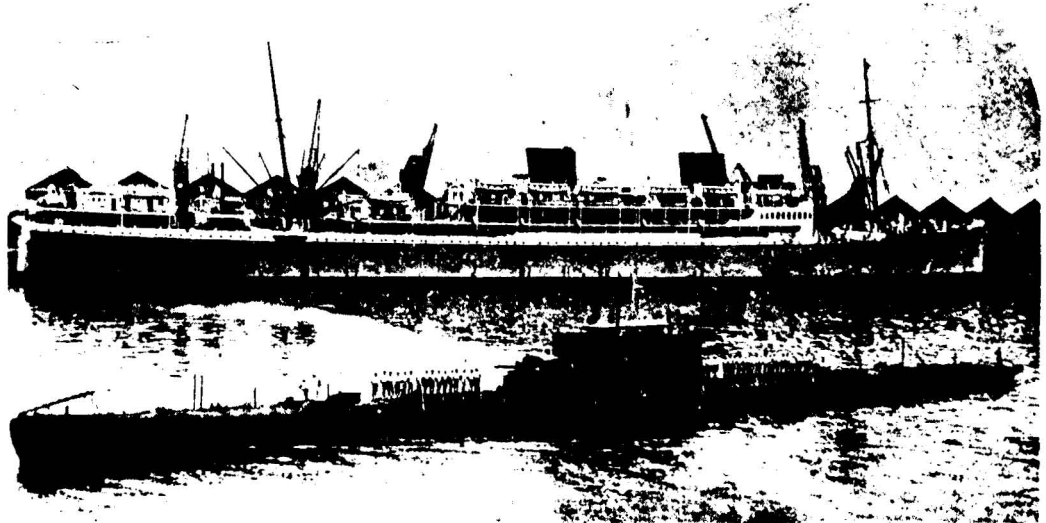
solicitous attentions of international fascism. Recently two bombs exploded in the headquarters of the Federation of Employers at the Metallurgical Industry in Paris. Two houses collapsed and two policemen were killed. Bombs exploded in the Bordeaux-Ventimille express; at the aerodromes of Villeneuve and Toussus; an Italian, Cancelli, was discovered attempting to blow up the Cerbère tunnel; scores of bombs having been discovered in various places; and all the bombs are of the same origin; they are loaded with tolite, a German explosive, and

with hexogene, an Italian explosive licensed for manufacture in Germany. Mysterious gangs are operating on the Franco-Spanish frontier, and have organised there a complete system of aid to the Spanish fascists, not hesitating to bring down passenger planes of the Franco-Spanish airlines by rebel German or Italian warplanes and pilots. Fascist agents attempt to capture the Spanish Government submarine C2 in the harbour at Brest.

A gang of Italian sailors attempt a punitive expedition, end-

with circumstances in the world outside. An examination of the position of various centres will enable us to draw some conclusions.

Here in Spain, the popular forces are continually improving their position. The army, if it has not already reached that number, is very near a million strong, and although there are still insufficient arms to meet all our needs, the arms industry is growing rapidly both in the number of factories being devoted to arms production and in the quantities produced by each factory. Already a number of successful offensives have taken place. At Brunete, Belchite, Upper Aragon, Don Benito, Pozoblanco, this growing strength of the armed forces of the People is reflected. In face of these successes, as already re-



ONE OF THE UNKNOWN submarines, now taking its toll of lives and merchant ships in the Mediterranean. This one, however, is known to be Italian. When the others are exposed, they too will be traced to the blackshirt war navy.

- is it Peace or War?



PRIME MOVER for peace and justice for Spain and the entire world. An early photograph of Maxim Litvinoff, Soviet Russia's representative at the League of Nations.

ing in murder at Tunis. And many other incidents of a like nature show the hand of fascism. This terrorism has very definite objects. Fascism wants to create unrest, a feeling of insecurity, a desire for "a strong government" in the fascist sense; to split the country and throw suspicion on the Left; to provoke reprisals which would create an atmosphere of civil war. It hopes to weaken the French people and force it to accept fascist domination.



FASHION-PLATE Anthony Eden, whose nation's policy is more than any other's responsible for the continuation of unpunished aggression by the pirate, fascist states.

either because its government yields through fear or, as a last resort, by means of foreign intervention as in Spain. These attacks differ only in degree from the attacks made on the franc by the City of London. Whatever the means, the end is the same. But the French people are aware that their standards of life, their liberty and peace will only be defended by a Peoples Government. They will not forget the introduction of the forty-hour week, paid holidays, and the support given them in their struggles for a higher standard of living a year ago. The lessons of the defeat of the German and Italian people will not be lost upon them.

NUREMBERG RANTINGS

The annual tom-tom meeting at Nuremburg has come and gone. And the rantings of the "Führer" against Bolshevism and the parliamentary countries "on the verge of Bolshevism" still prove themselves inadequate substitutes for the food the German people lack. A detailed study of living conditions in Germany shows a steady decline in standards. The "Manchester Guardian" reports that "Owing to the shortage of grain, coffee substitutes are no longer being made of malt. New coffee substitutes containing a substitute for malt are being recommended for use". So the fascist regime goes from triumph to triumph. From "butter from coal" it proceeds to substitute substitutes. No doubt the time will soon arrive when we will be faced with yet another accomplishment substitute substitute substitutes, and even this does not exhaust all the possibilities.

RATIONING OF FAT

Another report from the same paper of March 12th says "The rationing of fat, introduced this winter is to be extended into the summer months. An official announcement issued today says that shopkeepers must continue, as at present, to keep lists of registered customers who have ration cards for the three months April to June. Hitherto the allowance had been half a pound a week".

The "Economist" says that prices have risen as follows: beef, 18 %, pork 11 %, veal 40 %, mutton 41 %, eggs 31 %, milk 7 %,

butter 35 %, margarine 44 %, potatoes 22 %, peas 52 %, beans 32 %. The price of clothing rose 24 %, of footwear 17 %, of linen 8 %, and of furniture 6 %.

SPANISH INTERVENTION

In order to prevent any worker from obtaining higher wages, in the only way left to him now that he has been robbed of his trade unions, he is forbidden to leave his place of employment to take a higher paid position, and indeed, may not change his position at all without the express permission of the Nazi authorities.

The hatred of the German people for the Nazi regime is intensified by fascist intervention in Spain. They fail to see any reason why German soldiers should sacrifice their lives, why many millions of marks should be thrown away, while they themselves are still hungry, to fasten on the Spanish people a regime similar to that they hate.

ITALY ON THE SPOT

The situation in Italy, with its own particular differences is similar to that in Germany, with the added difficulties of the revival of resistance in Ethiopia. A native army operating under the command of Kanyazmash Aleba Gobana, attacked Italian outposts, and then retired to its mountain fastnesses. An Italian army of five thousand men was sent out aga-

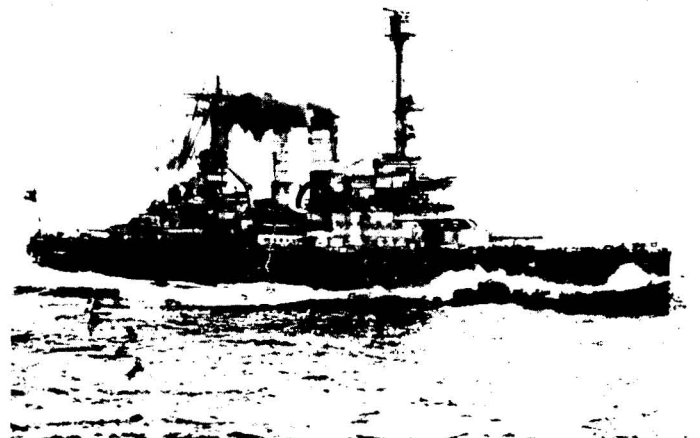
inst them. The Abyssinian troops cleverly allowed this army to advance until it was isolated from its base, and then fell upon it. Only fifty men escaped. On Au-



ADOLF HITLER, whose anti-communism has a mineral and geological basis.

gust 16th a force of four thousand Abyssinians attacked the railway station at Mojo at night, causing big casualties among the Italian force in occupation there, and then retired back to the hills. Apart from these organised attacks, in the north, in the west,

(Continued on page 15.)



GERMAN WARSHIP: It was a ship like this which carried out the unprecedentedly brutal bombardment of Almeria.

LETTERS from HOME

B. M. T. Workers Solid Behind Transport Union.

Dear S: Last night I witnessed one of the most exciting and stirring demonstrations of unity and faith in my whole... life. I've written you of the tough battle we've been having with the B. M. T. Corp., how only after threat of strike did they consent to a collective bargaining election, which we won. We have been negotiating for six weeks since the election, with continued stalling on the part of the company, and finally a flat No to our demands for increased wages, etc., they using the cry of poverty -- that if they granted the increased wages they would be insolvent in a year.

It is well known, beyond any doubt, that the B. M. T. is the richest of the transit companies, that its net profits for 1936 and 1937 have been more than ten million dollars. They pay the lowest wages in the city, and are notoriously anti-union.

Well, last night a meeting of the day-shift employes was called in Arcadia Hall, Brooklyn. Over 6,000 men and women (the B. M. T. employs 11,000) jammed the place -- people who for years have been members of the B. M. T. company union, and who at first were slow to join the Transport Workers Union. Now they are almost all solidly in the union. The cheering and ovations for the union leaders, Quill, Santo, Hogan, MacMahon (in charge of the B. M. T. organization), Counsel Sacher, were real and heartfelt. The workers were informed clearly and plainly that they would face the brutality and reaction of Wall Street in this action -- that the fight would be hard -- but when the resolution authorizing the executive board to call a strike if necessary was put to a vote, there was not one dissenting hand, not one. The men rose from their seats in a wave and the arms went up. They left the hall ready to walk out on five minutes' notice, and they left militantly, with the utmost faith in the union, certain of victory...

... We have been receiving occasional copies of "The Volunteer"

they are much in demand, but pretty scarce around here...

M. W.

About Big Doings In the Middle West.

Dear I, M. W, S and R and all my Chicago comrades: Received

THE SWORD AND THE PEN

Don Quixote, the famous,
Utters his meaningful words:

The 15th International Brigade,
Present!
With fists high, Spain's
Students salute you.
Sword and pen unite
In one fervent embrace;
Embrace from those who
Profoundly feel the mission.
The noble destiny,
The incomparable greatness,
The stern, solemn honor
Of having in our land
The culture of the West.

Don Quixote, the famous,
Utters his meaningful words:

Institute of Lagasca
Of Madrid, toward the Northeast:
Intensive course, vibrant
Notes, practical, laws.
The professor of Latin,
Softly, suavely:
Have to get up early, boys!
At eight, which means seven.
The Institute presents
A brilliant flag
To the brave men of
The 15th International Brigade
Who defend our cause.

Don Quixote, the famous,
Speaks his meaningful words:

Flag, the splendor of your silk
Will continue to live:
What leafy movement in you,
Rapid, noble, fierce!
International hands
Will hold bright your honor forever!
What wealth can buy,
What blood can beat you?
Fifteenth Brigade, salud!
Accept this gift
Which to invincible arms
Renders fervent pen

Don Quixote, the famous,
Ends his meaningful words.

A. MONTORO

Translated and Reprinted from
"La Libertad".

SPANISH CORTES CONVENES

After more than a year's adjournment, the Spanish Republican Cortes (parliament) reopened in Valencia on October 1, with expressions of magnificent enthusiasm from thousands of observers. Military parades of sea, land and air forces, plus many other demonstrations, greeted government officials on the reopening of the Cortes.

The President of the body, Comrade Diego Martinez Barrio, opened the session by paying homage republican forces of land, sea and to the to the air.

The head of our government, Comrade Juan Negrin, after continued outbursts of applause, declared that he accepted the governmental position replacing Largo Caballero as a war service. His first words were a general account of the formation of the new government. He outlined these steps as follows:

1. Representation of all the parties that figured in the previous government.
2. Indirect representation of those forces which took part in the previous government and who are not represented directly in the new one. (Here he was referring to the two largest trade unions of Spain, the U. G. T. and the C. N. T. When the new government was formed the U. G. T., then headed by Caballero, refused to enter it. Consequently the C. N. T. followed suit.)
3. Primary attention to the creation of a strong navy, and in general to all war problems.
4. Concentration of the offices of the Cabinet Minister.
5. The right of the different parties to designate their ministers. The liberty of the government to occupy the high offices to meet the exigencies of the war.

With these points as a basis, Negrin elaborated the discussion on how the Government immediately set about the tasks of cleaning up the rearguard, maintaining public morale against the invaders, setting up a ministry of sea and air, solving military problems, advancing the economic and cultural standards of the people, and dealing with international questions -- all of these with the primary aim of winning the war and preparing for peace.

your most welcome collective letters, and the postcard picture of the group is something I shall always treasure...

Your organ of the International Brigades "The Volunteer" is a honey. Saturday I will take the copies you sent around to the different comrades, and let them

(Continued on page 16.)

"TO THE HEROIC INTERNATIONAL FIGHTERS"

The following messages and statements have been forwarded to the War Commissariat of the International Brigades on the anniversary of the arrival in Spain of the first international columns -- a year ago, October 14th, 1936.

From the Committee Of the Madrid United Federation of Trade Unions

"What can we say of our admiration toward the men of other countries who have forsaken their homes to share the tragedy that encompasses our country, and who have understood the importance, in order that the human race shall go forward, which our triumph will represent?

"They know from personal experience what fascism is: the final bulwark of a system of exploitation and tyranny that is imposed by the ferocity of capitalism. This system has no reason for continuing its existence; it wishes to grind under its military boot all that is most noble, most sacred, most proud in the human race; to crush our most precious possession, the very reason for the existence of the human race: PROGRESS.

"To these men from foreign frontiers who generously came to offer their lives for liberty we can pay no greater homage than our fervent recognition, from this sublime and heroic nation, which with its blood is fertilizing the furrows which shall give a new seed to humanity, with which there shall be spread good-will and well-being around the circumference of the earth.

"Honor to these heroic fighters of the International Brigade!

"Long live the commissars of international antifascist solidarity!"

From the General Secretary of the Madrid Popular Front.

"At present, for their aid in the struggle we are engaged in against reaction; and because in the future they will be the base of the World Popular Front, capable of smashing fascism internationally, we extend to the International Brigades all our friendship and our profound admiration."

SPANISH PEOPLE GREET US ON OUR FIRST ANNIVERSARY



From the General Secretary of the Syndicalist Youth.

"The soldier who came from the far countries in order to help us in our struggle for independence is the true expression of the sentiment that animates the world.

"Today these men contribute with indomitable courage in the fight to destroy our enemies. Tomorrow, it shall be we who will

help to liberate the international proletariat from all its enemies. This is the warm, fraternal feeling we have for the heroic volunteers of the International Brigades."

From the United Socialist Youth (J. S. U.) of Madrid.

"The International Brigades have taught the youth precisely two things:

U. S. PROTESTANT PREACHERS PROTEST FRANCO PROPAGANDA

NEW YORK, Oct. 6.—In answer to the propaganda being spread by Spanish bishops in defense of the fascist ring-leader, Franco, 150 Protestant preachers have published an open letter condemning these actions.

The letter declares that the attempt of the Spanish bishops to justify the military rebellion against the legitimate Spanish Government constitutes an alarming note of hostility against any popular government and against liberty, which "we Americans love so profoundly".

It adds that the bishops have made no mention of German and Italian intervention, nor of the enlistment of Moors to help Fran-

co. The letter points out that the conflict is a "struggle between the forces of democracy on one side, and the privileged classes allied with the fascists on the other side".

The signers of the letter express indignation that "they (the priests) have joined the camp of reaction and fascism". They conclude by saying: "It is difficult to believe that the attitude of the Catholic Church is in favor of the invasion of Republican Spain. These prelates will not get any sympathy in the United States, after their arbitrary declarations, and for condemning the very principles that constitute the most precious heritage of our people."

"One -- the true sentiment of solidarity; and two -- how unity makes it possible for us to overcome the most difficult obstacles.

"In saluting the valiant youth that compose these brigades, the Juventud Socialista Unificada (United Socialist Youth) assures them that our own young generation will not deviate from the path of unity in which it is marching. In this way, whenever our solidarity is needed, it will be given with the greatest efficiency.

"Honor to the youth of all countries who have fallen on our side!

"Salud to those who are ready to continue the path to victory!"

From the Executive Committee of "Federal Left" of Madrid.

"Izquierda Federal (Federal Left) declares its homage to the International Brigades for their outstanding heroism on the battlefields, where there is being waged and forged a new moral; and also for their aid in the creation of a new spirit of justice which will illuminate like a powerful beacon-light the ancient and the modern democracies."

Catalonian Youth Flay de Valera Stand on Spain

BARCELONA, Oct. 5.—The youth of the F. A. L. C. have sent a telegram to President De Valera of Ireland, reminding him that when Ireland was fighting for its independence, Catalonia was in the vanguard of its defence.

The telegram reads:

"Catalonia, which gave Ireland the title of "Sister Nation", has been deeply deceived and cruelly betrayed, in this tragic hour when it is giving its blood in the defence of its liberties.

"The conduct of the President of the Irish Free State in the League of Nations has not been worthy of a people who have known oppression and slavery.

"De Valera has not been liberal, nor generous. Nor does he have a feeling of national independence for his people. The youth of the F. A. L. C. wish to see Ireland entirely free."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT DENOUNCES WAR - MAKERS

NOTE: All quotations which follow have been re-translated from the Spanish press.

★

An historic speech on the present international situation was made by President Roosevelt last week, at the opening of a new monumental bridge in Chicago, in which the President vigorously attacked the belligerent nations that were provoking war. He indicated that the casting away of pacts made between nations show that we are in an epoch of barbarism, terror and reaction. Never, he said, have true democratic nations attempted to impose their political creeds on other nations by the shedding of blood.

He continued by pointing out that international illegality reigns.

"There has been begun an interference on the part of some countries into the internal affairs of others, or with the invasion of foreign territories the scrapping of treaties. This situation has now become so grave as to seriously threaten the very foundations of civilization. Without declaring war, nor having justifiable reasons, these countries have assassinated civilians, women and children. In peace time, submarines have attacked and torpedoed merchant ships without reason and without previous warning. There are nations that are conspiring and participating in the civil war of a country that has never preformed any hostile act toward them".

ATTACKS AGGRESSORS

He pointed out that nations that claim their liberties deny those very same principles to others. Their lack of justice and feeling for humanity have made them sacrifice peoples and nations to satisfy their desire for power and supremacy.

He expressed his hope for the future in the following manner:

"We desire to have a world in which we can breathe freely and live without fear. The nations that love peace must in unison strengthen themselves in order to reinforce the laws and principles that constitute the only basis that can guarantee peace."

The President explained that national morality was essential, like individual morality. He em-

ATTACKS AGGRESSOR NATIONS WHICH MENACE WORLD PEACE



FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT, President of the United States

phasised the principles of international morality. In treating the question of national isolation, he said that there existed in the world an interdependence that made it technically and morally impossible for one nation to isolate itself completely from the economic and political phenomenon of the rest of the world, especially when upheavals, instead of diminishing, appear to be extending themselves.

"It is a question of vital importance for the American people: that the saneness of treaties and the establishment of international morality be returned to", he said.

90 PERCENT THREATENED

The President stated that the peace and liberty of 90 percent of the world population is being threatened by the other 10 per-

cent, who disregard international principals. "This 90 percent who want peace, can and must find the means of realizing their desires."

The President further added that it is unconceivable that in modern times a nation should be so deranged and bestial as to dare to throw itself at the world in war, invading territory of other weaker nations, violating solemn treaties, all without provocation. The peace of the whole world is actually threatened by this state of affairs.

"LIKE AN EPIDEMIC"

He compared the international situation with that of an epidemic, saying that the community should avoid allowing the community to reach its dangerous stage.

He concluded his speech with the following words: "War is con-

tagious - declared or undeclared; it engulfs the peoples of all nations in a theater of hostilities. Although we are ready to separate ourselves from it, we cannot avoid its disastrous effects, nor the danger of being involved in the fight. We must adopt mediums to reduce the complicated possibilities, but we cannot escape completely from a world engulfed in disorder. The principles of peace must be restored for civilization to have life, and confidence among all nations restored. The desire for peace must be manifested in such a form that nations be deterred from violating agreements and taught to respect the rights of others. We must establish positive designs to safeguard peace. America detests war and hopes for peace. America, therefore, is committed to preserve peace."

The President said that 12 cents out of every dollar is being used for war preparation.

His speech was made to 50,000 people, and was also radioed to all of America.

NEGRIN COMMENTS

Doctor Juan Negrin made public his opinion regarding President Roosevelt's speech. He said: "I agree entirely with the words of the illustrious President of the United States. They come as a reinforcement to the moral movement that is being produced in the world against international disloyalty and the methods of violence employed by the Totalitarian States. I believe they will contribute to clear away the tense and threatening atmosphere that encircle the activities of the pacific countries. It is a shame that these words were not sounded before, when they could have influenced the deliberations at Geneva in respect to Spain."

FASCIST DISTORT WORDS

BERLIN. — Here the Berlin press published President Roosevelt's speech in the most mutilated form, suppressing many paragraphs.

It is said in Berlin that, because of the political experience with former President Wilson, Germany must distrust the initiative of Americans in the international field.

LIFE IN REBEL BILBAO TODAY

The following message from a Republican who remained behind when the fascists occupied Bilbao gives a first-hand picture of life in that city at the present time.

On the day of the occupation of Bilbao, the first Italian forces, consisting of two columns of Black Arrows, arrived at the centre of the city singing "Giovinezza" and shouting "Viva Italia". During their passage through the streets they fired at the windows and balconies from which the Republican and Basque nationalist flags were flying. As a result of the firing eleven people were killed and twenty-three wounded.

A lieutenant colonel of Franco's Army, replying to an ironic remark of a German officer on the lack of enthusiasm shown by the citizens said:

"I must address the people in order to tell them that they are under our power that they must show their jubilation."

The idea was approved and ascending the balcony of one of the largest public buildings in the city, the lieutenant colonel cried: "People of Bilbao! The glorious nationalist Army has just freed you from the claws of Red separatism..."

Not one balcony opened and not a single person came to listen to him. Enraged by the ridicule he had put himself to, the lieutenant colonel ordered a military procession to take place in the early afternoon and guaranteed on his word of honour that "the people of Bilbao would show due enthusiasm."

In effect, during the march-past of the "nationalist" troops, the balconies on both sides of the street were lined with people who applauded the soldiers with more or less enthusiasm.

This was due to the fact that a large section of the rebel troops were ordered to enter all the private houses in groups of six, with fixed bayonets, and oblige the inhabitants to stand on the balconies and applaud the conquerors as they marched by. Six men and two women killed for refusing to applaud.

On the following day the military authorities, wishing to convey an impression of normality which will never exist in Bilbao as long as it is occupied by the fascists, published a decree ordering all shop-

keepers and factory owners to resume work as in normal conditions, threatening them with severe measures if they refused. In the same decree the priests were ordered to return their parishes in order to say mass as usual.

The decree was completely useless. Not one shop-keeper, nor factory-owner, nor priest showed any signs of life. This passive resistance of the middle classes against fascism had a most depressing effect on the military and civil authorities, who had to go to other towns in order to procure priests to officiate in the churches and by this means avoid the farcical spectacle of an army which to defend religion, having no priests willing to say mass for it.

Thus, during the first days of fascist occupation in Bilbao, three priests as well as ninety-two shop-keepers were shot without trial.

CITY PILLAGED

One morning a few days later all the shops in the centre of the city had placard posted outside them bearing the Falangist symbol and the following words:

"Spanish soldier fighting for the Fatherland: If you need any article in this shop, enter and take it: it belongs to you. The owner is an enemy of our sacred cause, who is attacking you in a cowardly fashion."

There is little need to say that the Italian and German troops, obeying the order to the letter, dedicated themselves for several hours to the pillage of Bilbao.



When the matter came to the knowledge of the authorities, the shops had been despoiled of all their goods.

BILBAO GERMAN COLONY

At the present time Bilbao is a German colony. In spite of the fact that the Italians played by far the greatest part in its conquest, all official organisms passed immediately into the hands of the Germans. All private companies are run by Germans. Germans are in charge of the reconstruction of the blast furnaces without which Bilbao's iron cannot be smel-

ted: they have control of the trams and of the railways, as well as the reconstruction of all the bridges. The best hotels are occupied by Germans and to enter them special passes have to be produced.

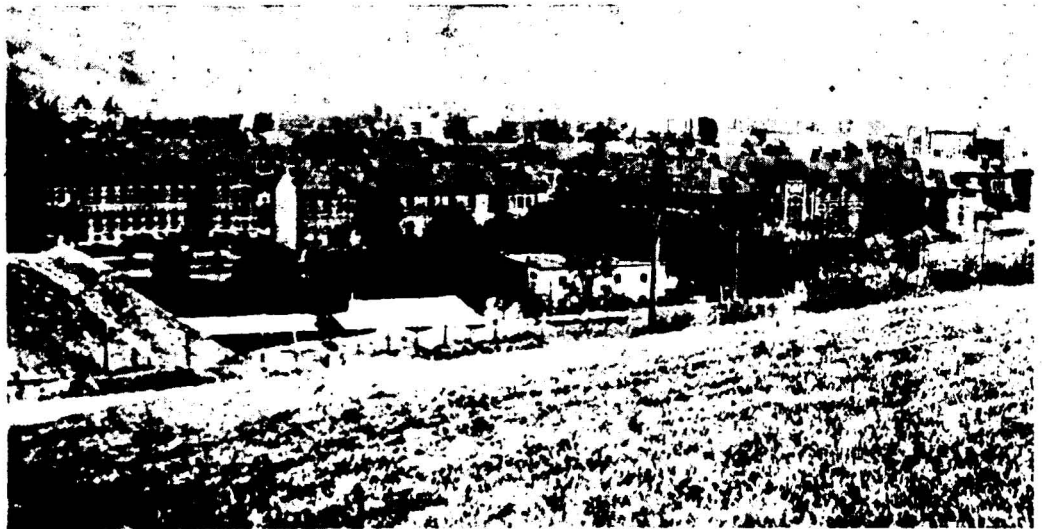
The following story is significant of the attitude of the people of Bilbao towards invaders:

One Sunday afternoon a number of upper class inhabitants were sitting in one of the most fashionable cafes of the town. Suddenly the public realised that some Italian soldiers had entered the establishment. Moved by a feeling of hatred, everyone rose and began leaving. The Italians, who instantly understood what was going on, began shouting insults at the people.

A torrent of spoons, cups and glasses fell on the invaders as a patriotic protest against their provocation. Overcome with rage, one of the soliders drew his pistol and began firing on the customers, who seized him and gave him a thorough hiding. When calm had been restored it was discovered that the shots fired by the Italian soldier had caused the following victims:

One little girl of five, wounded in the arm; a waiter, wounded in the shoulder; and a woman, wounded in the stomach and head...

This is just one illustration of the insults the Basque people have to put up with at the hands of their foreign conquerors.



VIEW OF BILBAO before the foreign fascist invaders began their destructive offensive, killing and murdering its people.

THE U. G. T. MOVES TOWARD GREATER UNITY

Much concern was manifested recently throughout Spain at the news of the expulsion of 14 national industrial unions by the Executive Committee of the U. G. T. At a time when the greatest possible unity was an absolute prerequisite for winning the war against Fascism, the news of further split and dissension was clearly cause for alarm. The Executive Committee of the U. G. T., dominated as it was by Caballero and his followers, not having been renewed during the last five years, followed a course which was bound to lead to disaster. Its actions, such as failure to support the present government upon its formation in May, was rebuked and over-ruled on several occasions by the National Committee. It was becoming quite clear that the Executive Committee ceased to reflect the actual sentiments of the

U. G. T. workers and was playing a game which could help only the enemies of the Spanish people.

In order to wrest control of the National Committee which was scheduled to meet shortly, the Executive Committee started a campaign of expulsions. Using the slim pretext that certain unions were behind in their dues payments, a campaign was started to expel precisely those unions which fought consistently for unity and for unconditional support of the Negrin government, which they considered a government of victory over the fascist enemy. The actual expulsions began and 14 national unions, including some of the largest and most important unions, such as the Asturian Miners, Madrid Bakers, found themselves excluded from the ranks of the U. G. T.

At a time when the entire nat-

ion was showing the greatest sympathy and solidarity with the Asturian miners, who are conducting such a heroic struggle against the advancing fascist hordes and who are shedding blood in defense of their land and liberties, news was received of their expulsion from the U. G. T. for alleged non-



payment of dues. The leaders of the Executive Committee of the U. G. T., busy with the work of dividing the ranks of the workers, steeped in their hatred of the present government, did nothing to help the struggle against the invading fascist forces in the North but found time and a means of notifying the Miners Union of Asturias of its expulsion from the U. G. T.

NATION INDIGNANT

During the month of September the trade unionist of Spain showed how they felt about this matter. A wave of unheard-of indignation spread throughout the country. Union after union adopted resolutions calling for a stop to this disruption and splitting policy by the Executive Committee. In cities, towns and villages U. G. T. organizations were roused into action against misdeeds of the Executive Committee. Finally on September 27, in besieged Madrid, the local executive committee met and condemned unanimously the policy of the national Executive Committee in expelling the 14 national unions. A cry came forth everywhere for a full meeting of the National Committee to deal with the situation and to bring about unity in the ranks of the U. G. T.

NEW COMMITTEE CHOSEN

On Oct. 1, the meeting of the National Committee was convened in Valencia. The meeting fully represented the 30 national unions affiliated with the U. G. T. The meeting considered that the Executive Committee heretofore did not represent the true will of the membership of the U. G. T. and had acted against their interests.

The meeting invalidated the expulsions of the 14 national unions and finally elected a new Executive Committee. It retained only one member of the former Executive Committee, one who had consistently opposed the splitting tactics of the old leadership. The meeting named Ramon González Peña, of the miners' union, as President; Edmundo Domínguez, vice-president; Jose Rodriguez Vega, general secretary, and Amaro Rosal Diaz as assistant secretary. Immediate action was taken to notify the International Federation of Trade Unions of the change of leadership of the U. G. T.

SOLID SUPPORT

The first step of the new Executive Committee was to visit Dr. Juan Negrin and affirm the unconditional support of the U. G. T. of his government and pledge to mobilize the broad membership of the U. G. T. in active work for the execution of the tasks set to them by the Peoples Front government. The new leadership immediately contacted the leadership of the C. N. T. and pledged to maintain the closest co-operation between the two great trade union organizations and to work untiringly for the organic unity of the U. G. T. and the C. N. T. so that in the very near future both bodies could merge into a powerful, single, united trade union movement of Spain.

The latest developments in the U. G. T. are indeed heartening.



With change in the leadership of the Executive Committee, with the great spirit of unity displayed at the first session of this body on Oct. 2nd, there is reason to believe that the greatest possible unity of the trade union movement will be welded. The trade union movement will be able now to march with the rest of the nation in the great anti-fascist People's Front towards victory over the foreign fascist invaders and towards a free, happy and prosperous Spain.

D. M.



AFTER THE AIR RAID, women and children leaving their underground refuge.

THE WORLD SITUATION — IS IT PEACE OR WAR?

(Continued from page 9.)

and in the south, there is constant fighting. The situation has become such that Italian soldiers are afraid to move outside their garrisons. It is certain that as fascist Italy's difficulties increase, the Abyssinian resistance will grow.

THE FAR EAST

In the Far East, the struggle for Chinese independence continues. Japanese fascism, well-armed, with its well laid plans for the conquest of the north of China, is met by an unexpected resistance. The growing unity of the Chinese people, which has its parallels here in Spain, faces Japan with serious problems. Its advance is much slower, and is costing far more than it had anticipated, and it is already evident that it is probably not Chinese independence which is in danger, but the continued existence of Japanese fascism. The eighth Army not long ago inflicted a terrific defeat on the Japanese, killing or wounding 30,000 men. Four days later, in the region of Tsang-Chou, a thousand Japanese troops were surprised and captured.

It would be foolish to expect an early victory of the Chinese people, for Japan has a terrific preponderance of arms, but Japan's internal situation, like that of Germany and Italy, is rapidly deteriorating. The Manchurian conquest has not provided the results expected, either in the way of profits or of minerals. The preparations for war have been a great strain on the not too strong Japanese economy; and war itself, if not quickly ended, may prove disastrous. During the past six months, there have been more strikes than during the whole history of the Japanese labour movement.

PROGRESS IN U. S. S. R.

In striking contrast to the conditions obtaining in the fascist countries, is the constant progress of the people of the USSR. Whereas, despite the enormous armaments production, after eight years the total production of the capitalist countries stands more or less where it did, that of the Soviet Union has increased several times over. Translated into terms of human happiness, the effect of this increase in produc-

tion is enormous. Nor can any limits be set to this growing prosperity of the Russian people. In its relations with other states, the USSR is recognised as the strongest and most consistent fighter for collective peace, and it is against this great people that the most vindictive spleen of the warmakers is directed, as being the greatest obstacle to the realisation of their plans of conquest.

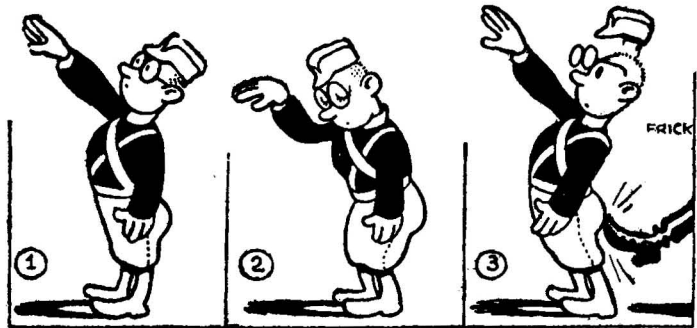
At Geneva, Litvinov's speech has revived hope among the peace forces in the League of Nations. Clearly and simply he showed that despite all that has happened to weaken it, the League is still capable of holding the aggressors in check and of stopping new aggressions. Great Britain, despite its strenuous denials of the past, has now been brought to the point where it can no longer deny the violation of the "non-intervention" agreement. No steps are being taken to end intervention in Spain, but the recognition of the fact of aggression is a step forward from the previous position.

BRITAIN REMAINS KEY

It is evident that Britain remains the key to the world situation. A few words of the right kind from the British statesmen could change the alignment of the world forces in favor of peace. But these words will never be spoken by the "National" government of its own free will. Only the combined pressure of the progressive people can compel a change of its present line. It is tragic that leaders of the Labour movement, such as Bevin and Citrine, can prevent, even for a little time, the unity of the anti-fascist and anti-war opinion, which now, lacking leadership and cohesion, are ineffectual, could unitedly become such a force as would compel its wishes to be carried out. History will look back with curiosity upon these few men, who have, in effect, the destiny of the world in their hands for a short space of time, and it will wonder at their blindness and stupidity. But there are others in the Labour movement who see with clarity the danger which confronts the world.

But will Unity arrive in time? Events are moving quickly.

O. C. G.



THE FUEHRER TALKS

AND TALKS

AND TALKS

15TH INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE SALUTES MADRID STUDENTS, ACCEPTING THEIR BANNER

TO THE STUDENTS OF THE LAGASCA INSTITUTE

Dear Comrades,

Your action in undertaking the patronage of our Brigade adds another link in the already powerful bonds of international solidarity between the people of Spain and those of our several lands. Now in the fight for the cause of Spanish democracy, which is the cause of all humanity, we realize the significance of, and are proud to accept, your proffered banner for the symbol of our mutual struggle.

We have watched the fast-growing student and youth movement of Spain. Everywhere we see the signs of unity of the rearguard. We are very happy to note that among the leaders in this movement for unity are the students. In the forefront stands the youth of Spain who have undergone so much and who still fight on in the vanguard of the Spanish forces.

Among our ranks are many students from many lands; some of the best fighters in the Brigade sprang from the student movement, where they learned the simple elements of the struggle for civil and political liberties, political rights, and often even economic subsistence.

We regret that it was not possible for the Brigade to be present at the tendering of the banner to our unit. We were occupied carving further records, further cause for you to be proud of us—our roles in the captures of Quinto and Belchite may well fill you with pride. Soon we hope to return to the Center front where it will be possible for us to make a fact the desire now held by both of us: cement the bonds of comradeship and understanding between us. We hope to be able to send delegations to visit you and become acquainted with the individuals who comprise your group. In the same manner we hope that you will be able to send express our gratification in your interest and assure you of similar sentiments on our part.

For the men of the Fifteenth International Brigade we send to your group the warmest antifascist greetings.

V. COPIC

Commander of Brigade

STEVE NELSON

Political Commissar.

ROBERT H. MERRIMAN

Chief of Staff.

NEWS BRIEFS

MOSCOW. For the next year the Soviet Government has put aside 4,200,000 rubles for the construction of a system of railways in the Ukrainian region.

★

BERLIN.—We get news that Hitler has accepted Mussolini's invitation to repay the latter's recent visit, by going to Rome.

★

MARSEILLE.—The attempt to ship 200 tons of sulphur to fascist Las Palmas (Mallorca Island seaport), last week, resulted in an effective refusal by the port stevedores to load the boat. The cargo ship "Medie" was forced to sail without the sulphur.

★

MOSCOW. More than 1000 Asturian children between the ages of 15 and 16 have arrived here this week on board the two Soviet ships, "Cooperation" and "Dzerjinski". The voyage along the Spanish coast was perilously made under direct rebel fire.

In the Mancha Canal, the "Cooperation" encountered an Italian ship. When the young voyagers recognized the Italian flag they let loose prolonged cries of condemnation to the fascist ship.



LEAVING THE REFUGIO: A mother looks anxiously at the sky, to see whether all the planes have departed, before venturing out again, child in arm, into the streets.

OCTOBER 16th

Perhaps today
You will remember John Brown.

John Brown
Who took his gun,
Took twenty-one companions
White and black,
Went to shoot your way to freedom
Where two rivers meet
And the hills of the
North
And the hills of the
South
Look slow at one another —
And died
For your sake.

Now that you are
Many years free,
And the echo of the Civil War
Has passed away,
And Brown himself
Has long been tried at law,
Hung by the neck,
And buried in the ground —
Since Harpers Ferry
Is alive with ghosts today,
Immortal raiders
Come again to town —

Perhaps
You will recall
John Brown.

LANGSTON HUGHES



IN MEMORIAM
OLIVER LAW
Commander of the Lincoln
Battalion in the July
offensive

Died on the Field of Battle
July 10, 1937

LETTERS from HOME

(Continued from page 10.)

keep on spreading them around...

The steel situation is now quiet, but the auto workers have held their convention. They have grown in little more than a year from 35,000 to 350,000; and we will see the day soon, I believe, when they will get old Henry Ford also lined up...

Your collective letters are fine. Keep'em up. Keep sending me mail and make your letters informative to the fullest extent, of course together with everything else you want to write. For we can surely use these letters to get additional and stronger support for Loyalist Spain and for the International Brigades...

B. M.

RALPH FOX BATTALION

Another indication of the international solidarity among the different national volunteers in Spain, not only with the Spanish people, but with each other, exists in the form of a complete battalion of the 14th International (Franco-Belge) Brigade. This is the Ralph Fox (12th) Battalion, so named as far back as last April, in honor of the noted English novelist and writer whose death here shocked the world.

"The battalion was named 'Ralph Fox' at a time when there were still a number of British volunteers in each company", says Commander Dumont of the 14th Brigade. "These men were afterward transferred to the 15th Brigade, but we felt that it would be most fitting to retain the name

of this man who won our love and our admiration in the early days of the war."



VIGILANCE IN THE FIELDS: This peasant, one of the rising heroes of the war against fascism, guardian of the nation's food supply.



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



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Madrid, October 18 - 1937

SPAIN'S MINERAL WEALTH

The fame of the Spanish metal mines has existed since the most remote times of antiquity and there is no historian of olden days who does not mention, some of them at great length and with very interesting facts, the mineral deposits which were exploited in the Iberian Peninsula.

A large proportion of the foreign invasions of olden times had as their principal object the seizure of the riches, principally precious metals, which they supposed the Spanish soil contained. The Phoenicians, Carthaginians and Romans mainly looked for lead, silver, copper and gold, and traces of their exploitations, above all Roman, are to be found in abundance in the metal mines of Spain.

More than twenty centuries have passed and Spain now sees her soil trampled upon once more by foreigners pursuing an identical aim as is clearly shown by their military operations, their treaties with the rebels and their systematic appropriation of the ore which is exploited in the territory they dominate as well as by the manner in which they are diverting the trade in minerals to the countries in Central Europe to the detriment of their natural markets in Western Europe and North America.

The principal mineral products of Spain are as follows:

IRON

In the year 1910 a detailed study was made of the reser-

A Survey of Some of the Products that Hitler and Mussolini are After

ves of iron ore in Spain which gave a total of 811 million tons. In spite of the large amount of iron ore which has been exploited between 1910 and 1937, the new discoveries made during the past few years allow it to be affirmed that the present day reserves are not less than 800 million tons.

The classic deposits of Vizcaya, Santander and Guipuzcoa in the North and those of Seville, Huelva, Almeria and Murcia in the South, especially as far as better quality ore is concerned, are nearly exhausted. On the other hand there are large deposits of unexploited iron ore in the provinces

of Oviedo, Leon, Lugo, Teruel and Guadalajara, but its geographical location, far removed from the ports and its content of less than 50 % render its exploitation very difficult and often uneconomic in periods when the price of iron is low.

FUELS

Spain has never been and can never be an exporter of fuels, yet she produces enough coal for her own needs, except for certain special varieties. On the other hand she has no liquid fuels and every drop of oil, petroleum, etc. has to be

imported. Four-fifths of the coal produced in Spain comes from Asturias.

POTASSIUM SALTS

The deposits of potassium salts in Catalonia constitute one of the greatest mineral riches of Spain at the present day. These deposits which were discovered comparatively recently, are now known to stretch right across Northern Aragon into Navarre.

PYRITES

Spain is the greatest producer and exporter of pyrites and she possesses 50 % of the world's reserves. The Spanish pyrites, some of them iron and others ferro-copper, are located in a belt covering the province of Huelva and part of that of Seville.

COPPER

The principal deposits of copper in Spain are the ferro-copper pyrites of the province of Huelva, which contain from 0.5 % to 2 % copper metal. The reserves of ferro-copper pyrites in this region are not less than 200 million tons. All the copper produced in Spain comes from Huelva and in 1935 the total production of copper ore was 415,959 tons.

LEAD

Spain was for many years the greatest European producer of lead, but at the present time her position has changed,

(Continued on page 6.)



THE 20TH BIRTHDAY OF THE U. S. S. R.

The progressive people of the world will soon celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics. All the world has watched most intensely how the Soviet Union battled its way during all these years against the stream, against hostile surroundings, until it has grown to be one of the most powerful nations of the world. Surrounded by enemies on all sides — facing economic blockade and foreign intervention; total disruption of all aspects of economic life; famine and disease — the peoples of the Soviet Union, overcoming difficulty after difficulty, kept their steady onward march to a new and better life.

During these twenty long years the progressive-minded people — workers, farmers, intellectuals — the world over rallied to the cause of the Soviet people. In the dark days of twenty years ago, the British and American seamen refused to load ships with cargoes of arms destined for the white armies of intervention. French sailors in the Black Sea, led by Andre Marty, revolted against being used to down the cause of the Soviet people. Material and moral aid came from all lands to the great Soviet people in their hour of need. It was with International Solidarity that the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union were able to triumph over all enemies —

internal and foreign. Today, the U. S. S. R. looks forward to a grand future of freedom and prosperity for its 170 million people of hundreds of races and nationalities.

A LONG WAY

During these twenty years this mighty nation has traveled a long way. From one of the most backward countries, kept in poverty and ignorance and as a result of years of imperialist and civil wars — desolated and ruined — the people with sacrifice and enthusiasm, unknown in the past, pushed forward and re-constructed a nation which stands today among the foremost in the world. Step by step the U. S. S. R. went through the stages of military communism to the New Economic Policy (NEP) to the period of socialist construction and planning and the brilliant fulfillment of the first and second 5 Year Plans. It lifted itself by its own bootstraps from a land lacking industry and culture to one of the most technically developed countries. Today, with its mass production industries, socialized agriculture, most highly developed culture and education, with its vast resources used for the benefit of all the people, the Soviet Union continues on the road to prosperity and culture, surpassing the expectations of all and reali-

zing the ideals of the world's greatest thinkers. It was victorious against its foreign invading enemy as well as the last remnants of the internal foe — the Trotskyite wreckers and spies — because the peo-



ANDRE MARTY

Paris Deputy, hero of Black Sea revolt, and indefatigable fighter against fascism.

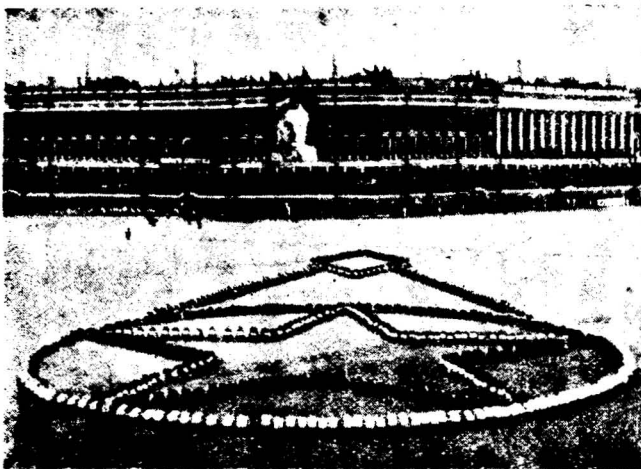
ple were united and fought with all their being for the triumph of the Soviet cause.

While dark forces of reaction threaten the people of the rest of the world, in the Soviet Union the people are enjoying the fruits of their struggles and labors. The new Soviet Constitution opens new and greater vistas of democracy and freedom — guaranteeing the rights of all and safeguarding the democratic aspirations of the millions of Soviet peoples. How different is the situation in the rest of the world? Fascism the deadly enemy of progress and democracy has engulfed many nations during these twenty years. In Italy, Germany, Japan, Austria in the Baltic and Balkan countries — new tyrannies and despotisms have been imposed on the people by their fascist rulers. These fascist powers have not only deprived their own peoples of their freedom but today are threatening the liberties of the rest of the world. In 1936 the troops of Mussolini started their unprovoked aggression against the Ethiopian people. By wholesale mur-

der and brutality, the fascist hordes imposed their bloody rule over the Ethiopian people. In 1936, the troops of Hitler and Mussolini, started a fresh aggression when they invaded the soil of Spain and in their attempt to destroy the Peoples Front government and turn this country into a colony of Italo-German fascism. In 1937 the Japanese war-makers invade China and deal death to the innocent people and despite the indignation of the entire civilized world, are attempting to steal the land and liberties of the vast Chinese people.

FOR PEACE, PROGRESS

While the forces of human progress and peace throughout the world protest in awe against the brutalities of the war-makers and offer their aid to the people fighting against the invaders and aggressors, the governments of Europe and America continue to play with the non-intervention game the farce which only serves to encourage the fascist barbarians. One nation of all has taken the side of surest advance in the world conflict between the forces of peace and progress and war and reaction, i. e. the Soviet Union. The role played by the representatives of the U. S. S. R. in the cause of democracy and peace in Geneva needs little repetition. It tore the mask off of the fascist war-makers and pointed its accusing finger to Italy, Germany and Japan as the bandits and those threatening peace of the world. It has championed the rights of Ethiopia, Spain and China before the League of Nations and the world. It has aided Spain as no other nation. It is only under the constant pressure of Soviet diplomacy that world public opinion is crystalizing and in turn forcing action on the part of the democratic and pacific governments. The recent speech of President F. D. Roosevelt, the victories for Spain at Nyon and Geneva, the mild actions of France and



MAY DAY celebration in Moscow's Red Square.

(Continued on page 6.)

MADRID'S HOUSE OF CULTURE

One of the liveliest artistic and intellectual centers in the world at the moment, is, without doubt, the house of the Alianza de Intelectuales Antifascistas in Madrid. (In English, we would say the Alliance of Antifascist Intellectuals.) It is a large house, in fact a palace, belonging to a former gentleman of title and a descendant of slave — traders by the way — who fled from Spain to devote his riches and his aid to the cause of those who are trying to overturn the government and force the people back into feudalism. The Marquis, for that was his title, took with him all the gold he could carry, but he left his palace, his Sorollas and El Greco, his hand-carved furniture, and his enormous library behind him. Now his mansion has been taken over by the State. And the State has given it into the care of artists and writers as the headquarters and meeting place of all those men and women in Madrid who are devoting their pens, paint brushes, and talents to the Spanish Republic and its welfare.

SHELTERS ALL ARTS

The Alianza de Intelectuales Antifascistas itself, as an organization, is an outgrowth of the First International Writers Congress held in Paris in 1935. But, in Spain, it has been en-

larged to include not only writers, but painters, sculptors, composers, and all others who, through the arts, are contributing to a better and more beautiful world. It now has centers, of affiliates, in Valencia, Barcelona, and Alicante. When the fascist rebellion broke out, the Alianza immediately aligned itself with the government, and began to devote all its resources to the preservation of the Republic — for who could know better than artists and writers what happens to creative efforts under a Fascist regime?

Many of the members of the Alianza had experienced censorship and suppression of thought under the monarchy and the dictatorship of the late Primo de Rivero. And all of them know what happened to books and theatres and science in Germany and Italy. They do not want that to happen here.

MANY ON FRONTS

That is why, last November when Franco and his Italians and Moors were at the gates of Madrid, many Spanish writers and artists and musicians died on the barricades defending their city against the burners of books and the assassins of culture on the rebel side. At present, many of the members of the Alianza are at the front, some as soldiers, some as tea-

chers in the campaign against illiteracy, others as editors of brigade newspapers or as makers of posters, some reading their poems to the troops, others playing their own music in the trenches.

Here in Madrid, the house is a hive of intense and varied intellectual activities. Its president is José Bergamin, the Catholic writer. Its Executive Secretary is the poet, Rafael Alberti. (Alberti and his wife, Maria Teresa Leon, writer of short stories, are known in New York and in Latin America, having lectured there a few years ago.) In and out of this Madrid house, formerly a palace for the idle rich, now pour the best of the Spanish writers and artists and thinkers, as well as the visiting foreigners resident in Spain or here gathering material for articles and books: famous foreigners like Ernest Hemingway, like Andre Malraux, like Ludwig Renn, Egon Erwin Kisch, Gustav Regler, Jef Last, and Michael Koltsov.

MANY ARTISTS KILLED

Sometimes these writers Spanish or foreign, leave the house to continue their work as fighters or artists at the front, and they do not come back again. Pablo de la Torriente, the Cuban, went away a few months ago, never to return. He was killed at Majada Honda. One of Spain's great sculptors, Francisco Perez Mateo, died in the defense of Madrid. The poet, Federico Garcia Lorca, was executed in rebel territory at Granada. And in the battle of Brunete, that excellent woman photographer, Gerda Taro, was killed while making pictures of the soldiers of the People's Army for the papers and magazines she represented in Paris. You see, the artists and writers who frequent the Alianza in Madrid are not of the ivory tower school. In fact, there couldn't possibly be an ivory tower in Madrid. The Fascist cannons would blast it to pieces.

WHAT THEY DO

In time of war, what can writers and artists do that is useful, entertaining, and beautiful in a living and vital way? Here are some of the things the Alianza did — and does. At the



MARIA TERESA LEON

Short Story writer, and first woman in Spain to direct a playhouse.

beginning of the War, many members of the Alianza went into the trenches and the villages near the front, explaining to the fighters the basic meaning of this War, and why a group of industrialists and military men had chosen to rise against the majority of the voters of Spain. They made posters, they gave speeches, they read poems, they worked with and under the direction of the Ministry of Public Instruction. From Paris, the French writers sent them, as a present, a school on wheels, a truck equipped with a motion picture machine and a printing press, brought to Spain by a committee headed by Louis Aragon, famous poet and novelist.

Last August, a year ago, the Alianza founded its paper, EL MONO AZUL, (Overalls), and began to publish stories, poems, and chronicals of the war. When the People's Army was formed, members of the Alianza helped to establish, and several of them still edit, the Brigade newspapers that are

(Continued on page 6.)



RAFAEL ALBERTI

speaking at the Second International Writers Congress.

HEART OF SPAIN

How Film of Spain is Affecting Our Countrymen Back in the U. S.

The following letter, from one of the producers of the film, "Heart of Spain", is perhaps the most vivid and informative to reach us on the work of the cinema in enlisting aid for the victims of Fascist aggression. It is for this reason, and because we are sure that the contents of this letter will interest our own men, that we reprint it herewith.

Two ambulances have been purchased by a number of progressive film stars and directors and scenario - writers for Spain — and these ambulances are now touring the United States, showing the picture "Heart of Spain". On the sides of the ambulances are painted the names of such notable Hollywood figures as Betty Furness, Fred Keating, Franchot Tone, Lionel Stander, Guy Endore, Ben Hecht, Humphrey Cobb, Florence Eldridge, Lewis Milestone, and many others.

And now for the letter:

"I haven't written you since HEART OF SPAIN opened at the Fifty-Fifth Street Theatre last week. It's playing with Jean Renoir's "The Lower Depths", a very brilliant film, and turning them away as well as knocking them over. It is a very exciting thing, after you have put your heart and feverish intensity into a work, to

go into a theatre, see it thrown up on the screen, and affect the audience in just the way you had planned and desired.

"It's terrific experience to be in the theatre when HEART OF SPAIN is on. People around you gasp and sigh at intervals; you feel a tightening throughout the audience. The other day, in the row behind me, an old man kept trying to muffle his sobs throughout the latter half of the picture; but the sound came right through the hand over his mouth.

MANY FAINT

"Almost every day some one or other faints at the shock of the blood transfusions and the cumulative emotion of the film. For the first time people are seeing a Spanish document that makes them participate vividly in the horror of fascist invasion and the heroism of the people's fight. All of us have used every bit of ingenuity to put the shots, taken in Spain, into the most effective sequence. And the result must have some of the shock, horror and heroic determination that is the actual

experience of the Spanish people.

"One day I stood outside the theatre and stopped a woman of about the same age and figure as X. I told her I was one of the people who had worked on the film and wanted to know what her reactions were.



I then saw that her eyes were red and that she could hardly speak. With difficulty she said: "I felt it in my heart very much... It is terrible and also wonderful." The manager of the theatre told us of his experience with two other women. The first came out of the house in a rage, asked for the manager, and proceeded to explode that this was a communist picture: what the hell is this theatre becoming anyhow, she fumed, a communist house? ... But immediately after-

ward, a woman whom he described as an "aristocratic type" asked for the manager; this one proceeded to explode that this was one of the finest films she had ever seen, that every American ought to see it. And when he told her that another woman had just complained that HEART OF SPAIN was communistic, she said that that was nonsense. It was the truth. And the management ought to get the best writer in America to write about the picture, so that every American would want to see it.

"One of the most interesting experiences I had was in connection with the fainting of a young actor who sat beside me. About halfway through the film, he started to waver a little, turn away, turn back to the screen. Finally he slid by me, and sat down again in the back of the house. At the end of the picture he went back into the lobby for water, where the usher saw him sagging and helped him up to the office. I came up later and saw him sprawled out on a couch. He was given smelling salts and spirits of ammonia and finally came to. The first words he said were: "I'm going to send all my friends to see this picture". Which I was rather surprised.

(Continued on page 6.)

AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN VISIT SPAIN

Two well-known American Congressmen arrived in Spain a week ago — Representatives Jerry O'Connell, Democrat from the State of Montana, and John T. Bernard, Minnesota Farmer-Laborite. The visit of two outstanding American political figures is an important gesture of sympathy on the part of the American people toward the Spanish Republican cause. Both have taken formidable parts in the movements in the United States that called for the defense of the rights of Loyalist Spain.

O'Connell, who champions

the cause of miners, railroad, steel and farm workers, is a leader of the Democratic-Progressive group in the House of Representatives. He was one of the few Representatives who fought tooth and nail against the so-called "Neutrality Law". At the same time he figured among the Legislative Delegation which visited Secretary of State Hull to protest the political neutrality of the U. S. Government. In addition, he was one of the four signers of the widely-publicised letter that was sent to Secretary Hull favoring Loyal Spain. At a great mass meeting, held in New York City on July 19, in cele-

bration of the first anniversary of the Spanish War, O'Connell presided and delivered a speech for the loyal Spanish people that resounded around the world. Son of a miner who was killed in an accident while working in a copper mine belonging to the Anaconda Copper Corporation, he also became a miner at an early age. After many sacrifices he succeeded in obtaining his lawyer's degree.

Bernard has carried on an intensive campaign among mine, factory, and steel mill workers' organizations of the United States in favor of Loyalist

Spain. His pro-labor actions in the House of Representative have gained for him an enviable reputation. He was one of the 28 Representatives who defended the call for an embargo of commodities against Italy, Germany and Portugal. He is a man of considerable culture, and a veteran of the World War.

O'Connell and Bernard will visit the fronts, and will be guests of honor in special affairs arranged for them by the Government in Valencia, Madrid and Barcelona. Trade Union and political organizations are also making special preparations in their honor.

Dr. Negrin Clarifies Status of the International Brigades

On the evening of Sunday, October 10th, Dr. Negrin made the following statement on behalf of the Spanish Government to a meeting of foreign journalists:

--I have taken the liberty of asking you to be present here in order to make certain corrections arising from Signor Mussolini's note, the inaccuracies of which are a proof of the confusion of the Italian Government when replying to the communique of the Governments of France and the United Kingdom.

THE SPANISH I. B.

The Italian document states that our representatives at Geneva expressed our Government's opposition to the withdrawal of the volunteers who are fighting in the Republican ranks. This assertion is untrue. The statement made by Sr. Azcarate, which our Government supports in its entirety, was as follows:

"Reference has been made, and I do not want to pass this over in silence, to the existence of the International Brigade about which there is constant talk in the press. Very well. Allow me to draw a clear distinction, or rather to repeat a clear distinction which has been drawn on different occasions by the Spanish delegation: what is known as the International Brigade is formed by foreigners who have come to Spain to defend an ideal. But the International Brigade, as a body, as an entity, is absolutely Spanish and is absolutely subordinate to the Government of the Republic."

WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGNERS

As you see, Sr. Azcarate only wished to point out that those who form part of the Republican Army as volunteers are, in actual fact, volunteers because they joined the Army voluntarily, inspired by an ideal, whereas the German and Italian forces are not volunteers, because they came to Spain involuntarily and are in regular Corps of occupation. Consequently the Repu-



Dr. JUAN NEGRIN
head of the Spanish Republican Government.

blican volunteer forces can be withdrawn from our country when the Government sees fit, and this will be the case on the day when we are certain of reciprocity. Those of you who have spent some time in our country already, know that the international forces have a percentage of foreigners which is lower in many cases than the percentage of Spaniards enrolled in their units. The Government does not see the least obstacle in arranging for the departure of these foreigners from Spain. The same cannot be said of the rebel Junta which will come up against wills greater than its own. But furthermore the Government of the Republic, in its note of March 4th, declared solemnly: While considering that it is not possible to establish equality between those who, convinced of the justice of the Republican cause, come of their own free will to fight under our banners, defending at the same time the freedom and peace of Europe, and those who, belonging to military units of the totalitarian states, were sent, obeying definite orders from their respective Governments, to uphold the military rebellion by armed force, the Government of the Republic received resolutely the idea of re-embarking all the foreigners who are participating in

the present struggle on the side of the Government and the side of the rebels, an idea to which the Foreign Ministers of France and the United Kingdom were clearly referring in their latest speeches at the French Senate and the House of Commons."

JUMBLING OF TEXTS

To sum up, the Government of the Republic believes that it has shown that it does not place the least difficulty in the way of eliminating the factor of the foreigners participating in our struggle. On the other hand Signor Mussolini has recourse to a vulgar jumbling of texts to cover up a new attempt to secure a delay allowing him to continue attacking our people. The Spanish Government has grounds for denouncing the fact that Italy is preparing a new determined attack, for which she has been accumulating war material and men. Signor Mussolini was certainly relying on this offensive to give him such advantages as would enable him to continue his tortuous international game. In face of this policy of evasions and delays, the Government of the Republic wants to warn world opinion that efforts are being made to give the Spanish conflict a chronic and highly dangerous character. The war continues to make havoc in our country; but we have accustomed ourselves to sacrifice and we are resolved to conquer, happen

campaign is prolonged it will lead to world war, and this fearful problem weighs heavy on our minds.

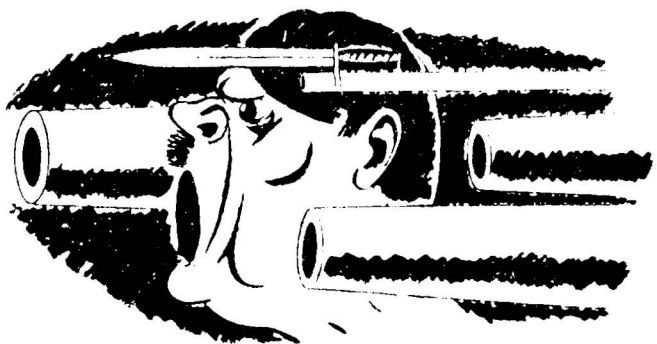
TRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEERS

Lastly, the Government of the Republic categorically refutes the fallacious interpretation of the statements of our representatives at Geneva and declares itself ready to remove the foreigners from its Army; but only in exchange for a strict reciprocity.

I do not want to neglect this opportunity of paying a tribute to the men who came to our country inspired with a generous ideal of peace. Their behaviour contrasts with that of the aggressor army corps which have come to take up strategic positions with a view to aggression on a gigantic scale in the near future.

The Government of the Republic will keep a deep sense of gratitude for the help of these brave men, many of whom have lost their lives for our liberty and for the liberty of Europe, and many of whom will always be invalids or cripples as a result of their part in the fight against the common aggressor.

This will give you an idea that when the Spanish Government declares that it has been, and still is disposed to proceed to the withdrawal of the non-Spanish combatants who are at its side, the Government is in a position to be able to carry



what may. Believe me, moreover, when I say that the Government is more concerned by the consequences of our struggle abroad than with the struggle inside Spain. If the

out this withdrawal immediately--always providing that the principle of reciprocity is guaranteed--and carries its respect for loyalty to the point of making the greatest sacrifice.

House of Culture

(Continued from page 3.)

such an important part of the cultural work carried on among the men in camp and at the Front. The Alianza now has its own publishing activities, too, and has edited and printed a number of books, including a concise historical record of the war called *THE GENERAL CHRONICAL OF THE CIVIL WAR*, and also a new and valuable anthology, *POETS IN LOYALIST SPAIN*. There are now in preparation two volumes of short stories about the war, one to include the work of Spanish writers, the other the work of foreign writers familiar with democratic Spain, such as Gustav Regler, André Malraux and Kisch. In Valencia, a new and beautiful magazine, *HORA DE ESPAÑA*, has many Alianza members on its editorial board.

WRITERS' CONGRESS

But, from every standpoint, one of the most important achievements of the Alianza in recent months has been the bringing to Spain last July of the Second International Writers Congress which held sessions in Madrid, Valencia, and Barcelona, all cities within the range of Franco's shell fire or the bombs of Fascist aviation. This Congress, certainly of great historic importance, brought together more than a hundred men and women of letters from all over the world, of all races and colors, meeting at the very front line trenches for the defense of world culture and the preservation of the integrity of the arts against Fas-

cist aggression. These men and women who came to Madrid, many of them of world fame, are of those who do not wish to write books to be burned in public squares by international gangsters, or blown to bits on library shelves by bombs from the air, or censored until all their meaning is drained away. And so they came together in Spain, famous and busy people, to show their solidarity with, and their faith in the Spanish workers and intellectuals who are now battling against those forces that would kill all culture and send the human race back to the dark ages.

CENTER FOR ALL ART

The Alliance of Anti-Fascist Intellectuals is Madrid's center for such men and women. It is a center for every writer and artist who opposes the return to barbarism. It is a place where creative miracles continually happen. It is a place where now, today, art becomes life and life is art, and there is no longer any need of a bridge between the artist and the people—for the thing created becomes immediately a part of those for whom, and from whom, it was created. The poem, the picture, the song is only water drawn from the well of the people and given back to them in a cup of beauty so that they may drink—and in drinking, understand themselves.

That is art today in Loyalist Spain. And that is the function of Madrid's Alianza, the Alianza de Intelectuales Antifascistas.

LANGSTON HUGHES

20TH Birthday of U. S. S. R.

(Continued from page 2.)

Great Britain against the interventionists, are but meager results achieved by the insistence of the Soviet Union that all democratic forces unite against these forces of our common enemy the fascist incendiaries.

ALL SPAIN GREETSS USSR

Today, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the existence of the Soviet

Union, the people of the world have cause for rejoicing. The soldiers of the International Brigades know how our struggle for liberty here has been made easier by the aid of the people of the U. S. S. R. We, together with the Spanish people, and its Peoples Front government, are glad and proud of the part played by the Soviet Union in helping us to defeat the forces of Franco and his foreign masters and on this occasion hail the great people of the U. S. S. R. We hail the great leader of the Soviet people, under whose direction

the Soviet Union is marching to greater triumphs—Comrade Stalin. We know that the Soviet Union will continue to be the beacon-light to the people of the world in their fight for peace and freedom.

Spain's Minerals

(Continued from page 1.)

because for a long time production of this metal has been in a state of decadency owing to the exhaustion of the large mines and owing to the fact that during the past 30 years scarcely no new deposits of importance have been discovered. The low price of lead on the international market has been a further cause of the restriction of lead production during the past decade. Approximately 80 % of the production of lead ore is in loyalist territory.

ZINC

By far the most important zinc deposit in Spain is that of Reocin in the province of Santander, which produces 90 % of the total output of the nation.

SULPHUR

Sulphur is one of those minerals of which the production has increased during the past few years. This is due, not to an increase in the exploitation of the sulphur deposits, but to the fact that methods have been applied which permit one to obtain sulphur as a by-product of the exploitation of pyrites.

MERCURY

In Almaden Spain possesses the greatest mercury mine in the world, not only in reserves, but also in the high content of the ore by virtue of which no other mines can successfully compete with it. The total production of mercury in 1934 was over 1,000 tons.

OTHER MINERALS

There are also small deposits of the following minerals in various parts of Spain—gold, phosphorite, manganese, tripoli, wolfram, asphalt, bismuth, tin.

To sum up it may be said that, apart from the plains of Castille and the land along the

Eastern coast, there is practically no region of Spain which does not contain profitable minerals in its subsoil.

One can, however, establish a distinction between the high-priced metals such as lead, copper and mercury, which are found principally in the Southern part of the peninsula, and iron, the greatest reserves of which are in the North West, where fortunately for the industrial future of Spain the most important coal basins are also situated.

Apart from these there are two minerals whose value is so great that they can serve as the basis for the economic reconstruction of Spain—the ferro-copper pyrites of Huelva and the potassium salts of the region extending from Catalonia to Navarre.

W. W. A.

Heart of Spain

(Continued from page 4.)

prised at. He then told us that he had once experienced the breaking of an hypodermic needle in his arm, and that was what set him off. He was due for a reading at a theatrical office; he thought he had a good chance of getting a part—never had appeared on Broadway before. He was still quite shaky, so I accompanied him downtown, feeling a little guilty because he might lose his opportunity. But he assured me that he felt alright, and that he would even read better because of the shock.

"On the way down, he told me, entirely unsolicited, that he had gone to college and dramatic school and that "this kind of thing" had always seemed so far from him, so distant, so remote. Spain had never seemed a part of his life.

"Yes, this picture seems to have the impact that can start a "change" in people. It is so important, therefore, that it go all over the country. You'll see by the enclosure that some of the Hollywood big-shots are sending the picture with two ambulances on a tour across the country... Pretty soon, I hope, a print of the film will go to Spain, so you can see it too."

Salud!

X. Y. Z.

DIANA (L. G. T.)—Larra, 6. Madrid



The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

organ of the international brigades



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AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN PLEDGE TO CARRY ON WORK FOR LOYAL SPAIN

Two distinguished United States Congressmen, visiting in Spain, Jerry O'Connell, Montana Democrat, and John T. Bernard of the Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party in speaking over Station EAB in Madrid Oct. 22nd, pledged to carry on even a more vigorous campaign for the cause of the loyal Spanish people when they get back home.

"Wherever we have gone", O'Connell said, "the story has been the same. The Spanish people have shown a spirit and determination that is absolutely unbeatable. In visiting the front on the University City sector, we saw the famous street barricades that were erected in the early days of the war. They are an example of the superhuman effort of which the Spanish people are capable. The barricades are sturdy walls of cement and brick. On seeing them, I thought they had been built over a period of months, not only because there are so many of them but because they are all splendid jobs of heavy masonry. The fact is, however, that they were all built within a period of twenty-four hours. I still do not see how that was humanly possible."

O'Connell continued, "It is precisely this superhuman zeal of the Spanish people that explains why the Rebels and Fascist invaders have never taken Madrid and, in my opinion, never will. They have had an admitted superiority in arms and aviation, which the Span-

Bernard and O'Connell Speak on Madrid Radio to America; Impressed by Spanish People's Fight Against Big Odds.



JOHN T. BERNARD
Minnesota Farmer-Laborite

ish Republic has been unable to purchase because of the so-called non-intervention agreement. They have even had an army of nearly 200,000 Italians to help them. But this superiority in material strength could never equal the great courage of the Spanish people. I fully realize that these observations have been made before by many others. However, seeing and experiencing Madrid is so impressive that it is difficult to talk of anything else. It brings home, as nothing else does, how cruelly betrayed Spanish Democracy has been by the other democratic countries. It brings home, too, the urgent need for changing the cause of that betrayal—the so-called non-intervention policy of the democratic countries.

"It is now obvious that this



JERRY O'CONNELL
Democrat from the State of Montana

policy has done but one thing. It has permitted Fascist Germany and Italy to send unlimited quantities of arms, ammunitions, aviation and even whole brigades to crush liberty and democracy in Spain. After seeing the situation at first hand I, for one, do not believe that this one-sided kind of non-intervention can be permitted to continue. It is an open invitation to the Fascist aggressors to provoke so-called civil wars and then move in with their armed battalions to carry Fascism throughout the world."

O'Connell concluded by saying, "It is time for the democracies, if they are to safeguard the liberty and independence of their people, to exert every legal and economic effort to stop the Fascist aggres-

sors. That is the only way that liberty and democracy, not only here in Spain, but throughout the world can be protected."

FEARS WORLD WAR

Congressman Bernard told his radio listeners how impressed he was in seeing soldiers spending their spare time learning to read and write. "There are actually schools in the front line trenches", he said.

"We have also seen children happy at work and play in new schools, of which there is still a great shortage. The new schools are admirable and compare most favorably with anything I have seen in the United States."

Speaking of the rights denied to the Republic by world powers, he added, "...we sincerely hope that those democratic nations that have thus far refused to accord the legally and democratically elected Government the right to purchase arms and ammunition will soon realize that such a policy directly aids the aggressor forces."

"Continued failure to grant the Spanish Republic its proper rights will, we fear, hasten the coming of a new world war with all its consequent dangers to liberty and democracy, as President Roosevelt so well pointed out in his Chicago speech."

(Continued on page 7)

BILL LAWRENCE, IN FAREWELL TO AMERICANS IN SPAIN, INTRODUCES COMMISSAR JOHN GATES

Bill Lawrence, popular and hardworking American Political Commissar of the International Brigades Base, has left Spain after a long period of unstinting and fruitful activity to take up important work elsewhere.

His place will be taken by John Gates, who has spent more than a half year on the Cordoba front, as Adjutant Political Commissar of the 86th Brigade. Comrade Gates, who arrived in Spain early in February, reached the Cordoba front on April 1. There he was successively a company commissar, then Political Commissar of the 20th Battalion, and finally the acting Commissar of the entire Brigade. A statement on his activities by Lieutenant-Colonel Morandi, Commander of the 86th Brigade, is printed elsewhere in this issue.

MESSAGE TO MEN

In making his departure known, Comrade Lawrence left the following message to the American comrades in every I. B. unit in Spain:

"I am sorry that I could not say goodbye in person to all of the men with whom I have had occasion to speak during the many months we have been here together. To do this would have meant my remaining here

for at least another month, going from one unit to another. Unfortunately this was impossible, as you will easily understand.

"In leaving I have many things to say — but you already know what they are. All of us — all of us who have done what we came here to do, all of us who have held down our various jobs and held them down well — will know that few words are needed. So I will skip the speeches and make this farewell short and to the point.

OUR RECORD HERE

"The Americans have been here for almost a year. In that time we have earned the praise and the respect not only of the Spanish people, but of the People's Army of Spain and its tireless leaders. We have worked with all of the nationalities which compose the International Brigades, and the best testimony to our value here is that which reflects well not only on us, but on the job which all of us have done here — the fact that after 16 months of war Republican Spain and its organized army are pushing the fight against the enemy in a manner that would have been impossible a half year ago. We, as one small part of the People's Army, should be proud of this fact; we should be more than ever determined to continue the fight to its only logical conclusion — victory for democratic Spain.

CARRY ON!

"If we carry on as we have done in the past, improving slowly but surely in all of our work, I will be more than sa-

THE RECORD OF JOHN GATES AT THE FRONT, AS DESCRIBED BY HIS BRIGADE COMMANDER

86 BRIGADA MIXTA -- MANDO

The adjutant Political Commissar of the 86th Brigade, Comrade JOHN GATES, was one of the organizers of the 20th International Battalion that left the Base at Madrigueras on March 20, 1937.

Named Political Commissar of the 2nd Company (Anglo-American Company), he was the political and organizational spirit of the Company which in all of the battles engaged in at the Pozoblanco front demonstrated great fighting courage and a truly antifascist spirit. The good work of Comrade GATES inculcated a high morale in the men.

In the Company's difficult moments, he was given a special mission by the Military Command that he accomplished with brilliant capacity and a genuine spirit of sacrifice.

Subsequently, he exerted all of his energies in maintaining the antifascist and fighting spirit of the 20th International Battalion which found itself in difficult situations.

He took a leading part in the reconstruction and reorganization of the Battalion after suffering heavy losses in the many battles it engaged in. As a special honor he was proposed as Brigade Political Commissar. While waiting for the official appointment, he was designated Adjutant Political Commissar.

All of the missions that were imposed upon him were satisfactorily carried out. He has gained a high reputation of not only among all of the constituents of the 20th Battalion, but also in Brigade Headquarters and in the Brigade itself.

His transfer to more important work is felt very keenly by the Brigade because we lose in JOHN GATES, a true comrade and an excellent Political Commissar in every aspect.

Brigade Headquarters, Valsequillo, October 19, 1937.

Commander of the Brigade, Acting
Commander of the Sector (Signed),
Lt. Colonel MORANDI, 86 Brigade.



tisfied. And so, I am sure, will we all be. My leaving at this moment was a necessary thing, and it will cause no break in the work here — my successor could not have been better chosen than Comrade John Gates, fresh from almost seven months in the lines.

"If you give him the cooperation which you have given me, I shall be more than satisfied; and so, I believe, will

Comrade Gates. But he will soon see you and speak to you for himself.

"Carry on just as you have carried on, improving always, together with our British and Canadian comrades, as well as with all our other nationalities in the I. B., and with our Spanish fellow-fighters.

"Salud, comrades!"

BILL LAWRENCE

TO THE BRITISH BATTALION

Dear Comrades,

A few days ago I travelled to the front at Quinto in order to explain to the Battalion the reasons for my recall to England. Although we succeeded in getting to the trenches it was not possible in the circumstances to talk with all the comrades either collectively or individually. However we were able to discuss the position with leading comrades and explain to them.

The fact is that in a few weeks time there is to be the bi-annual election of the South



Wales Miners Executive, and it is considered necessary that I return in time for the election. My stay and work here in Spain has been made possible by the consent and approval given by the Executive of which I am a member.

It is understood that the South Wales Miners' Federation is now undoubtedly one of the most powerful forces within the Labour Movement in Britain in the fight for Unity and Aid for Spain. This being so it is very necessary that those who fight for such a policy be again returned to its Executive Council. I therefore trust that my departure to England for this purpose will meet with your whole hearted approval.

I came to work in Spain last April and since that time there have been very big changes particularly within our Battalion. There is no doubt but that the Battalion went through some of its most difficult times during these months. The problems we have had to overcome have for us very important lessons and too much cannot be said of them.

I would therefore like to draw attention to some matters that have been of considerable

importance in these months.

There have been difficulties which are natural in the formation of an army such as ours. Obviously in an army that is being forged in the actual process of struggle, unavoidable organisational weaknesses arise. They arise because not only are we building a new army but we are also building an army of an entirely new character, one which is an expression of the will of the people themselves.

The goal is a conscious goal and the army is the weapon with which it will be attained. There must be no false conceptions about the role of the army, there must be no false conceptions about the duty and the responsibilities of every soldier in its ranks.

In the political commissariat the comrades have an organisation through which criticism and suggestions may be made and in this way there exists the means whereby the comrades can give expression to their problems.

PEOPLE'S ARMY DIFFERENT

These are the two main points in which the Spanish People's Army differs from an imperialist army. First, the aim is one which expresses the will of the people; second, the soldiers within its rank have the possibility of organised discussion on the problems which concern them.

In little else does it differ from an imperialist army. The People's Army must be disciplined and efficient. Commands, no matter how difficult at times it may be to carry them out, must be promptly obeyed and without question. Discipline must be strengthened and there must be a political understanding of the reasons why absolute obedience to the Commanders is a vital necessity for victory.

During this period we have lost several of our most devoted

and heroic comrades. Men like Bill Meredith, Charlie Goodfellow, Bob Elliot and others whose tireless energies have given our British Battalion the proud record it now holds. Their names are synonymous with heroism and self-sacrifice as undying as the prestige and record of British Volunteers in Spain.

With their example as the guide our Battalion cannot go far wrong. It will be disciplined with that self discipline that was theirs; it will be loyal with a devotion that even death cannot destroy; it will be courageous but not foolhardy, and cautious but not cowardly; in a word it will be a Battalion

worthy of the principles and aims of the Popular Army.

The Government forces are now on the offensive and this in itself bears witness to the tremendous growth and development of the Popular Army. We cannot pay too high a tribute to the people of Spain and the Popular Front Government, when we remember that this powerful army has been forged even while, with immense handicaps, the Fascists were being kept at bay. Only the profound faith and determination of a democratic people in the cause they were fighting could have accomplished this. Such an example should sharpen our intelligence and better equip us to participate in the progressive movements of our own countries.

This experience should give

(Continued on page 8)



AN OLD, OLD STORY

The Anglo-French lion, which at the Nyon Conference and in some subsequent roarings showed signs of an unaccustomed vigour, has since had a sad relapse. The beast was metamorphosed into a crab and scuttled back into the crevices of the Non-Intervention Committee. The old trouble began as soon as France and Britain began to make concessions to Mussolini after Nyon. We already knew too well the sort of fruit that grows on this tree of "conciliation" — increased Italian intervention in Spain. This was accompanied by an ominous rattling of the Roman sword in the international scabbard: the sending of more Italian troops to Libya as a friendly reminder to Britain that she has interests in Egypt; Mussolini's blatant solidarity with Japan; the announcement that Italy will not participate in conversations, meetings or conferences without the presence of, or a formal invitation to the third member of the triumvirate against humanity; the Berlin prophecy that "The Europe of tomorrow will be fascist" — the prophet has doubtless inherited his gifts from a gentleman who was going to enter Madrid on a white horse many months ago — and the Berlin threat: "When words do not suffice it is necessary to resort to arms."

The result of it all is that the Non-Intervention Commit-

tee is meeting once again. Apparently it has not been considered necessary to re-christen 40,000 troops in Spain—having in actual fact considerably more than twice that number—and although the problem of a re-christening would provide a magnificent field of action for a new sub-sub-committee.

It is early to forecast the results of this meeting. Italy and Germany are still bargaining with the withdrawal of foreign troops as a weapon to secure belligerent rights for the "Generalissimo." As usual one voice has spoken and will speak firmly and clearly against the manoeuvres and threats of the fascists and the waverings and concessions of the democracies — the voice of the representative of the U. S. S. R. One thing is clear—so long as Britain and France fail to take a firm stand against the aggressors, so long as they allow international law and the rights of the Spanish Republic and the Chinese people to be trampled underfoot in the name of a "peace" which is no peace and only a delay while the fascist pack is gathering for the kill, so long will the shadow of war hang over Europe and the world.

But the waverings cannot last forever. The Governments of France and Britain have to reckon with the people, and the people of France and Britain want to live in a world of pea-

ce and progress, not in a vast powder magazine. Horror and anger at the criminal barbarism of the fascist attack on Spain and China is sinking deep into their hearts, and the Edens and Co. will not always be able to hide in sub-committees.

In his speech on October 5th the President of the United

States said: "The peace, the freedom and the security of 90 % of the population of the world is being jeopardised by the remaining 10 % who are threatening a breakdown of all international order and law, surely the 90 %... can and must find some way to make their will prevail."

A. E.

THE DEATHS OF COMRADES FRY AND WHALLEY

The British Battalion has again suffered the loss of some of its finest comrades in the death of Harold Fry, Battalion Commander and Eric Whalley, Battalion Political Commissar.

Both comrades were killed on October 13th, leading the Battalion in action at Fuentes de Ebro. In the same action we also lost another very good comrade, Sergeant Robinson.

Harold Fry had a consistent and interesting revolutionary record. He was a member of the Communist Party since 1933 and also a member of the Edinburgh Branch of the National Boot and Shoe Operatives. He first came to Spain in December 1936 and was appointed Lieutenant in command of the Machine Gun Company. He was captured by the fascists together with 28 of his men at Jarama on February 13th. The trench they occupied was cut off by the Moors who used the subterfuge of singing the "International" and advancing to our lines with the red front salute giving the impression that they were coming over to our side.

The captured comrades were retained in rebel territory until the end of May, their lives being saved by a German officer who recognised the value of British prisoners as hostages. Despite that all the comrades were tried and Fry was sentenced to death, the trial being conducted at Talavera in Spanish without an interpreter. The local officials refused to accept the responsibility for signing the death warrant and it was sent to Franco for ratification. The sentences were never carried out and comrade Fry and twenty three others were eventually exchanged for fascist prisoners in the Government territory and they returned to Britain on May 28th.

After a brief propaganda tour comrade Fry returned to Spain in August. He became the commander of the British Battalion after the Belchite offensive. His death has robbed the Battalion of an excellent military commander and of a comrade whose whole life had been devoted to the anti-fascist struggle.

Eric Whalley, was a comrade who in the short time he was here had shown excellent possibilities as a political worker. He became Battalion Commissar at the same time as Fry became the Battalion Commander and they were an excellent combination for the military-political leadership of the Battalion.

Whalley's previous history in Britain was of the same active political character. Prior to becoming the Mansfield organiser of the Communist Party he had been a very active member of the I. L. P. and had been the National Chairman of the Affiliation Committee which was formed in the I. L. P. in order to bring about the affiliation of the I. L. P. to the Communist Party. In addition to this he was an active propagandist and had also been prominent in the Unemployed Movement. For two years he had been the Chairman of the Notts and Derby District of the National Unemployed Workers Movement.

He will be mourned, not only by the comrades in the British Battalion but also by the Notts and Derby workers who knew him as an active and intelligent revolutionary worker.

A. D.



TOWARDS THE UNITED FRONT IN BRITAIN

The temper of the British people has been shown, if any showing were needed, by the reply it gave to Mosley, the vicious little imitator of the Rome and Berlin assassins.

Half a million strong, on Sunday, October 4th, it stopped his gang of hirelings, gathered from over Britain, from completing the provocative march through Bermondsey, despite the fierce bludgeonings of the police.

Two nights later, ten thousand people, drawn from every stratum of society, and including even the Archbishop of Canterbury, met at the Albert Hall and strongly condemned the present savagery of Japanese fascism, calling upon the Government to take the lead in taking measures to stop it.

Yet in between these two events, signs of the overwhelming hatred of the people for fascism, the Labour Party Conference was held at Bournemouth and decided by 1,730,000 votes to 373,000 against the formation of a United Anti-fascist Front.

NO DEFEAT

Does this signify a defeat for the progressive forces in the Labour Movement? At first sight it does, yet without minimising the seriousness of the position, an examination of the results of the Conference as a whole show very definite advances towards Unity, and what is more important, laid the basis for further advances in the future.

On the first day of the Conference, an expected triumph was won when the policy of certain reactionary elements in the Trade Union Movement, led by Ernest Bevin, was decisively defeated. Bevin had prepared proposals, which if passed would have meant the domination of the Labour Party Executive by the block vote of the Trade Unions for another year at least. Bevin was anxious to operate this policy, because of the evident desire of the constituency Labour Parties to elect to the Executive certain leaders of the "Left". This desire is shown by

the results of the Executive elections immediately after the defeat of Bevin's proposals, when a larger number of the "Left" were chosen than ever before. Stafford Cripps and Harold Laski, threatened by the Executive with expulsion for their Unity efforts, were chosen as representatives of the rank and file, while George Strauss came very near to election. Others who have fought in the past and still are fighting for Unity, both in the Constituency Section and in



STAFFORD CRIPPS

popular leader of the United Front movement in Britain

the Women's Section, were also elected.

This advance was the first fruit of the democratisation of the Labour Party.

CAUSES NO DEJECTION

The defeat of the United Front motion, by a greater majority than the rejection of Communist Party affiliation last year, has caused no dejection amongst the fighters for Unity because it is borne in mind that the Miners' Federation, which last year threw its weight on the side of Unity, this year voted against. This was due to some doubtful measures adopted by the Federation leadership at the annual conference held in July, when 259,000 votes were cast for Unity and 280,000 against, to swing over the small vote of the Derbyshire miners against Unity. If this had not been done, a small majority

would have been registered for Unity, and the 500,000 miners' votes would have brought the vote at the Labour Party Conference up to 800,000. It is generally acknowledged that the vote registered did not tally with the real feeling of the Conference.

In reporting on the Conference, William Mellor makes the following comments.

HALL PACKED

"To say that there is no despondency or sense of defeat in the minds of the "Left" is merely to underline a fact. No one who was present at the Unity meeting in the Bournemouth Town Hall on Tuesday night could for one moment think that the Bournemouth Conference was the eclipse of the "Left". The Hall was packed to capacity. The audience was not merely enthusiastic, but quietly convinced of the rightness of the case. And it listened to speeches that were worthy of the occasion. Above all, to a speech from Aneurin Bevin, that not even the enemies of the Unity Campaign could forebear to cheer."

The Bournemouth Conference has opened to those who support the Unity Campaign opportunities which will not be thrown away. Within the Labour Party the fight which the Unity Campaign has urged upon the rank and file and leadership will be strengthened and sustained.

O. C. G.



HAROLD LASKI

professor and champion of united action among workers' organizations

W.P.A. TEACHERS FIRMLY SUPPORT LOYALIST SPAIN

Dear Brother Editor:

I wish it were possible for you to be in our Union hall when the announcement is made that the bundle of "Volunteers" has arrived. There is a rush for them that speaks more than a million words can of the solidarity felt by our members for the cause of the Spanish people. The article "Trotskyist Traitors" in the Sept. 13th issue aroused great interest. For in our Union these disciples of Trotsky have carried on their disruptive tactics to the point where membership meetings instead of being occasions for discussion of plans for safeguarding and retaining our jobs were turned into demagogic harangues and petty wranglings on their part. But the members finally got wise to them and now they tread softly.

Eagerness to read the "Volunteer" is not our only display of solidarity. We have given the following concrete aid:

1. Fifty-three members went over to fight. Some have already given their lives. Others like L. L. who has just been made a commander in the I. B. still fight on.

2. Two Thousand Dollars has been raised. Part of it is being used to purchase an ambulance in honor of Joe Strelis and we hope to send it in the early fall. The rest of the money has gone into the cigarette and comfort fund.

3. On September 8th, a special Spain issue of our Union publication was printed.

4. On Sept. 24th, a Spain rally was held at which time our membership turned out in full force. And what a success it was. For as one member expressed himself, "I felt like packing up and going right over there".

We won't stop at the above. For we have learned that your fight is our fight too. And until Fascism is driven out of Spain our activities will not cease.

A. S.

THE ART TREASURES OF MADRID

The front line trenches can be seen from any tall building in Madrid. It takes 15 minutes to walk from the Hotel Victoria in the middle of the city to the Casa del Campo, and another ten minutes to reach the trench that looks across 60 feet of sloping, scrub-



MILITAMEN carrying art works to a safe place before fascist shells or bombs find their mark

oak field at the earthworks of the Moors. Each day the fascists shell Madrid, and each day a few die as a result of the shelling. But life in the city continues, a little more tense, a little more difficult, yet buoyantly, hopefully.

Madridenses are proud of their city, proud of its history, proud of its art treasures. When airplanes first began methodically to smash sections of Madrid, when shells first began to slaughter people in the streets, Madridenses thought of two things — barricades, so that the fascists could never enter Madrid, and protection for the art treasures of Spain.

PAINTINGS SALVAGED

The Junta Central del Tesoro Artístico Nacional was formed to save paintings, sculpture, fine furniture, pottery and church ornaments that are the pride of Madrid and Spain. Even as the untrained troops fell back from Toledo in the bloody first days of the war, desperate men found time to remove valuable paint-

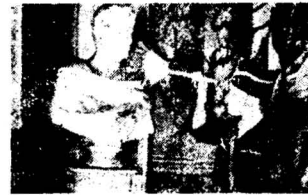
ings before they evacuated towns and to send them to Madrid for safe keeping. Peasants and workers knew that all art work must be preserved for future enjoyment and instruction when Spain again won peace.

The commission in charge of salvaging artistic works had an immense task. Not only must paintings and other art pieces be stored in safe places, but they must first be catalogued, often cleaned, and then carefully packed.

The work began and has been carried on with Madrid under siege. The director and his staff are all experts, former professors of art and often artists themselves. The director said to us, "Sometimes I hunger to return to my own painting. But this work is so important that now I must sacrifice my own work to the far larger problem of preserving Spanish art." In the Museo Arqueológico Nacional, the vast exhibition rooms have been reinforced with beams to prevent the ceiling falling if the building is hit by a shell. On sturdy shelves, almost as wide and long as the rooms, are ranged thousands of valuable treasures — furniture and china, gilt clocks and row upon row of saints, censures, vestments, crosses, images, all of which formerly adorned Catholic churches. The most valuable are packed in sand to prevent shattering. Each object is carefully inventoried and labelled, even the tiny statuettes that formerly decorated a mantle in some manufacturer's home. And still the treasures pour in, new books are found that must be wrapped and crated, peasants ride fifty and one hundred kilometers in their donkey carts to deliver a small article, because "it is from the house of a big landowner who left at the beginning of the invasion and it looks to us in our village to have value and beauty, though of course we know nothing of these things."

Madrid is admittedly not a safe place for such treasures. But it was impossible to eva-

cuate all objects simultaneously. The immediate problem was to move the most famous paintings, particularly from the Prado and other important



YOUNG MILITAMEN dusting art pieces

collections. Paintings by El Greco, Titian, Velazquez, Goya, Tintoretto and many others were carefully boxed in fire-proofed material, slowly and laboriously moved to Valencia. Here they were placed in strong buildings in which the temperature could be carefully regulated. For a brief time, some paintings were stored in the vaults of the Bank of Spain in Madrid to keep them from harm during the bombardments and until they could be taken from the city. The damp vaults quickly caused mold to attack the paintings. The El Grecos and other canvases had to be cleaned—and

in the cleaning the dirt and superimposed varnish disappeared with the mold. Paintings took on their original life and color, as though they had been created yesterday. The rescue work by experts had taught the commission and art connoisseurs everywhere new values in the paintings they had so long admired and studied. As a result, at present before paintings are stored, they are carefully cleaned. A legacy of the war will be the complete cataloguing of Spanish art, the cleaning and revivifying of valuable paintings, and the rescuing of them from what was often the ignorant abuse of private owners or the clergy.

In addition, new art treasures have been discovered. A wealthy dilettante had hidden a fine painting of the Flemish artist, Quentin Massys, in his house, for his sole enjoyment (and the possible increase in market value). Another collector had falsely labelled a painting by the German, Lucius Cranach, as an Albrecht Durer, and had kept the picture in his house where no one could see it except his few guests. But of even greater significance



LOYAL MILITAMEN helping to list and catalogue Spain's famous paintings



BARRICADES near the end of one of Madrid's main streets

ce was the discovery of a lost and extremely valuable El Greco that had hung on the walls of a local court house. This small canvas, representing the Shepherds Worshipping the Christ Child, had been considered irreparably lost. It is an example of the greatest Spanish painter's work during El Greco's finest period.

FASCIST SLANDERS CHECKED

The fascists of course have realized that the government's intense campaign to preserve the art of Spain is apt to win sympathy from the outside world. To offset this sympathy, the fascists have spread stories that the government sought to attract aerial bombardment by placing artillery on the roof of the Prado; that the government sacked churches and destroyed religious art; that the government looted the houses of the wealthy who had deserted to the fascist lines and destroyed the treasures. But such propaganda is deliberately and demonstrably false. It was the fascists who destroyed the valuable collection of the Duke of Alba by bombing the palace. No artillery ever was placed on the Prado roof or even near it—by testimony of every art lover in

Madrid and by written deposition of the Prado's director. Religious art has been collected and stored with special care.

While the struggle for existence goes on, the art of Spain is lovingly and meticulously guarded. While fascist shells daily explode and kill in the city streets, the careful, speedy, intelligent care of Spanish culture has become the primary concern of the people who are suffering and dying in or-



THIS is the way Madrilenos "destroy" art. The famous statue of Gibeles in one of Madrid's main squares protected with a thick wall of brick and concrete to resist fascist bombardments.

der to preserve their liberty and their cultural heritage. The struggle behind the lines is no less intense, no less efficient, no less important to the Republican government than the struggle to press toward military victory.

B. M.

ITALIAN CASUALTIES

Although the Italian fascists have tried to keep it a secret, it is calculated that of those repatriated to their native land from rebel Spain recently, 7,000 had been wounded; another 7,000 went home on account of illness.

The official figures from Rome indicate that until September, there have been 1,226 Italian fascists killed here. The real figures, it is known, are considerably higher.

The Italian people are learning the cost of Mussolini's aims.

Formation of Anti-Fascist People's Front

A very significant event in the course of politics and the war is the formation of a general all-embracing Antifascist People's Front in Valencia. This has been preceded by similar set-ups in Aragon, Lerida, and Alicante and it is to be hoped that it will be followed by more all over loyal Spain. It will be remembered that not long ago an antifascist youth alliance was formed to which all the youth organizations subscribed. This is paving the way for that complete unity of all antifascist forces so necessary for winning the war.

The Antifascist People's Front in Valencia was formed at a meeting on October 7th and absolutely all parties and organizations subscribed to its resolutions to support and cooperate with the Government without reserve and avoid all divisions in its ranks.

The representatives of the syndical organizations and political parties—U. G. T.-C.N.T. (the two big trade unions), Syndicalist Party, Communist Party, Union Republicans, Valencian de Esquerra and Valencianista de Esquerra (both regionalist republican parties), Socialist Party, F. A. I. (Anarchists), and Left Republican Party—with the object of coordinating their activities for the war and social advancement, met and agreed upon the following:

1st.—To end campaigns on the part of speakers or the press which might prejudice antifascist unity or attacks on syndical organizations or political parties which compose the Popular Antifascist Front.

2nd.—To respect and help the work of economic-industrial transformation effected by the workers and their syndicates or collectives, within the rules which are fixed for this purpose by the Government.

3rd.—To begin a campaign on the part of speakers and the press to keep up the morale in the rear and make sure that the sufferings of the antifascist people in consequence of the war shall not be a field

to be profited by the agents of Fascism.

4th.—To cooperate for the greater efficacy of the policy of prices and food supplies begun by the Government.

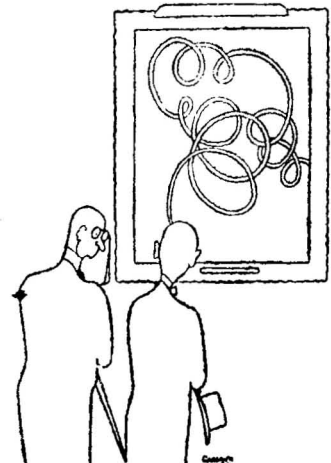
5th.—To purify the syndical and political organizations, expelling or refusing admission to any individual who has not thoroughly proved his fidelity to the antifascist cause, which we are all defending.

6th.—To encourage the enlargement of the People's Army, for the exclusive service of the antifascist cause.

7th.—To study the numerical proportions of such local organizations as might be formed, by a combination of syndical organizations and political parties, composing the Popular Antifascist Front, suggesting this proposal to the necessary organizations.

8th.—To cooperate for the greater efficacy of the governments of the Popular Antifascist Front.

In the constitution of the Popular Antifascist Front, we reaffirm our unshakeable adherence to the legitimate Government of the Republic, giving a fraternal greeting to all the comrades who are fighting on the battlefield for the liberty and independence of Spain, as also a tender remembrance for all those fallen for the antifascist cause.



"To me, it looks like the British Foreign Policy."

Congressmen Pledge Support to Spain

(Continued from page 1.)

"On our return to the United States we shall do everything within our powers to inform our congressional colleagues and the American people of the urgent necessity for granting to the Spanish people the aid they are justly entitled to by international law. This can be done simply by distinguishing between the aggressor and the victim. To do less is not neutrality."

LAUDS REPUBLIC

"The Spanish Government", he pointed out, is also doing marvellous work in the matter of preserving art treasures. Before coming here, I had read many stories about the destruction of art works. That some art works have been destroyed cannot be denied. But certainly the Spanish Republic was not responsible. It was the bombs and shells of the Rebels. There is the best proof, on the contrary, that the Government and the Spanish people are doing everything possible to protect and preserve all those art treasures that have not already been destroyed by Rebel bombing. Only this afternoon I spent considerable time going through one of the storehouses where the Government is carefully storing and indexing works of art. Here in the city of Madrid sandbags and other protections have been placed around the statues in the public parks to prevent their destruction by bombing or shelling.

"I must say that I have been deeply impressed by all this. It is an inspiring sight to see an heroic people building schools and homes and taking care of its art treasures while fighting against a brutal fascist invasion. I have seen with my own eyes that the Spanish Republic determined to prevent the destruction of the independence and democracy of the Spanish people by Franco, Hitler and Mussolini. And it is so confident of winning that it is going ahead building a better Spain for the day when peace and democracy here will be once again secure."

DISTINGUISHING UNIFORM SIGNS FOR COMMISSARS

For some time there have been Commissars who have been wearing insignia as Commissars of War which do not correspond to those fixed by the Government.

In all circumstances and at all times our Commissars should be an example of discipline. They should neither wear nor allow others to wear



insignia distinct from those recognized by the Government.

These insignia are the following:

A five-pointed star in a circle, as the distinguishing mark of a Commissar. Under this should be worn:

A red stripe for a Company Commissar.

Two red stripes for a Battalion Commissar.

Three red stripes for a Brigade Commissar.

One gold stripe for a Division Commissar.

GALLO

Commissar-Inspector of the International Brigades.



THE SOVIET UNION does not want war, but these sailors are ready to defend their land of Socialism against any imperialist threat.

TO THE BRITISH BATTALION

(Continued from page 3.)

us confidence for the future. Even closer relationships must be developed between the British in the Battalion and the Spanish comrades. In training, in reserve, on rest, in battle, there must be no separation by nationalities. We must see the fight as one of a people for whom national barriers do not exist.

Without this close cohesion of all sections, companies, the Battalion cannot be an effective fighting unit. We have therefore to remove bad habits of the past and attain a more intimate knowledge and relationship with our Spanish comrades. With such unity in the command and throughout the Battalion every order and command will be responded to by a united and powerful Battalion.

Our Battalion has earned a name on the battlefronts of Spain of which we can be justly proud. We have taken part in the most decisive battles in the war, and contributed much toward producing the present favorable position for the Government forces. The most decisive battles are just ahead. It is our duty here and at home to continue to assist our Spanish comrades in every possible way until final victory has been won.

sible way until final victory has been won.

With this as our aim we shall be able to continue and accomplish our historic tasks here in Spain, and at the same time inspire the people of Britain into decisive action alongside the peoples of the world to crush Fascism and reaction wherever it raises its head.

Comrades, I am proud to have associated with the men of

IN MEMORIAM



JOE DALLET

Political Commissar of the
MACKENZIE - PAPINEAU
BATTALION

Killed in action at Fuentes
de Ebro.

OCTOBER - 13 - 1937



our Battalion. Their example will long be my inspiration in my revolutionary work wherever it leads me. I am proud to have contributed a little to its achievements and pledge to do my utmost in the same cause at all times and wherever necessary.

Salud.

BILL PAYNTER

DIANA, (U. G. T.) - Larra, 6 - MADRID